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Vessels.	Tons.	Captains. SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1898.
† BALLAARAT	4800	W. J. Nantes ... 12th Feb.
* CARTHAGE	3287	J. R. Lendon ... 19th "
B.M.L. PENINSULAR	8287	W. A. Wheler .. 26th "
* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole ..... 5th Mar.
B.M. EGYPT	8000	R. F. Briscoe .. 12th "
* CARTHAGE	3287	J. R. Lendon ... 19th "
B.M.L. CALEDONIA	7358	W. B. Andrews. 26th "
* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole ..... 2nd April.
B.M.L. ORIENTAL	5284	L. H. Moule..... 9th "
* VALETTA	5018	C. Gadd..... 16th "
B.M.L. CARTHAGE	3287	J. R. Lendon ... 23rd "
* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole..... 30th "
B.M.L. EGYPT	8000	R. F. Briscoe .. 7th May.
* VALETTA	5018	C. Gadd..... 14th "
B.M.L. ARABIA	8000	A. W. Adamson 21st "
* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole ..... 28th "
B.M.L. CALEDONIA	7358	W. B. Andrews. 4th June.
* VALETTA	5018	C. Gadd..... 11th "
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IMPERATRIX	T. Rassevich	4,213	1st April 1898.

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AMPHITRITE	G. Costanzi	3,820	13th Mar. 1898

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S. S. "ELLORA," 1,996 tons, on or about 9th Feb., 1898.

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S. S. "MERKARA," 3,009 tons, on or about 12th Feb., 1898.

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General Storekeeper's Office, Parel, 26th January, 1898.

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BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY.

TENDERS will be received by the Undersigned at 12 noon, on MONDAY, the 21st instant, for the SUPPLY of 400 to 450 Tons MOOLMEIN TEAKFIRST CLASS LOGS, measuring not less than 10 feet in length and not less than 10in. by 5in. square and to be perfectly sound and free from dry rot, shakes or wens. The Timber to be delivered free in the Colaba Basin. Tenders to be headed on the cover "Tenders for Timber."

The Company does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

E. S. LUARD,
Locomotive and Carriage Superintendent.
Parel Works, 4th February, 1898.

NOTICE.

ESTATE OF EDWARD WHIGHAM CAMPBELL, DECEASED.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons claiming against the estate of EDWARD WHIGHAM CAMPBELL, late of Bombay, Exchange Broker, deceased, who died at No. 6, Clarendon Square, Leamington, in the County of Warwick, England, on the 26th day of September, 1897, and Letters of Administration (with will annexed) of whose estate having effect throughout British India were granted on the 3rd day of February, 1898, to John Kinmont Moir, Esquire, the Manager of the Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., Elphinstone Circle, Bombay, are hereby required to send in their claims to the said Administrator at his office, abovementioned, within one calendar month from the date hereof, at the expiration of which time the said Administrator will proceed to distribute the assets to the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have notice.

All persons indebted to the estate of the said deceased or having property belonging to him, are required to pay their debts or hand over such property to the said Administrator.—Dated this 9th day of February, 1898.

CRAWFORD, BURDER & Co.,
Administrator's Attorneys, 30, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the Ordnance Officer in charge of the Bombay Arsenal up to the 3rd March, 1898, for the SUPPLY of MISCELLANEOUS STORES more or less in the Bombay Arsenal, from 1st April, 1898, to the 31st March, 1899. The term "more" includes the Supply of Stores if required up to 25 per cent. in excess of the original Tender.

II.—Printed forms of "Lists" or "Schedules" (I. O. Form 104 or 105) of the Stores (more or less) for the supply of which Tenders are invited, and the form of contract deed which in the event of Tenders being accepted, must be signed and sealed by the Contractors, are obtainable on application in writing to this office daily (Sundays and holidays excepted) from 15th February to 1st March 1898, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 2 P.M., on payment at the rate of 1c. one per set of forms.

III.—Tenders will be opened at this office at 12 o'clock noon, on THURSDAY, the 3rd March, 1898. Parties tendering are invited to attend.

IV.—Parties tendering are particularly requested to give their addresses in full.

V.—Any further information required can be obtained on application to this office between the hours of 10 a.m., (Sundays and holidays excepted).

T. FOWLE, Major, R. A.,
Ordnance Officer in charge.
Bombay, 10th February, 1898.

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY.

NOTICE.

DR. HIRJEE JEHANGIR DADISETT, will be in attendance from 12th February, 1898, at the Church Gate Medical Hall, near St. Thomas Cathedral, between the hours of 11 A.M. to 1 P.M., and also at Mandvi Medical Hall, near Muslit Bander Bridge, between the hours of 5-30 P.M., to 7-30 P.M. daily, except Sundays, for inoculation of all persons wishing to avail themselves of Professor HAFFKINE'S TREATMENT AGAINST PLAGUE.

By Order of the Municipal Commissioner,
T. S. WEIR,
Health Officer.
Public Health Department, 9th February, 1898.

QUICK ROUTE THROUGH AMERICA.

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CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC AND CHICAGO AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAYS.

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NOTICES.

BOMBAY ART SOCIETY.

THE NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held in Bombay early in March 1898. 58 Prizes offered. The last day for receiving works will be March 1st. For prospectus, etc., apply to the Honorary Secretary, Elphinstone College, Bombay.

BYCULLA CLUB.

THE HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Byculla Club, will be held at the Club House, on SATURDAY, the 19th February, at 9-30 P.M.

W. WEBB,
Hony. Secretary.
14th January, 1898.

NOTICE.

THE SANITARIUM FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, AT NASIK ROAD.

THE Undersigned will gratefully acknowledge DONATIONS towards the ERECTION of 4 more COTTAGES (for EUROPEANS) which are greatly needed at the above Institution. A copy of the latest Report will be sent on application.

H. M. PHIPSON, Hon. Sec.,
Nasik Sanitarium.
6, Apollo Street, Bombay.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

SAVINGS BANK.

THE BANK receives DEPOSITS on the following terms:—

Sums not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in the aggregate may be deposited within any one year from 1st January to 31st December.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons, and the balance made payable to one or more of them or to the survivor or survivors.

Interest is allowed at the rate of two per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 5,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

JAS. H. SLEIGH,
Secretary and Treasurer.
Bombay, 25th February, 1897.

NOTICE.

SEALED TENDERS are hereby invited for SUPPLY of the undermentioned Articles required by the Poona Cantonment Committee commencing from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899:—

a. Stationery.
b Disinfectants.
c Petty Conservancy Supplies such as brooms, baskets &c.
d Kerosine Oil for Public Lighting.
e Supply of bullocks and drivers for rubbish, watercarts, beef and mutton vans and filth carts for the Slaughter Yard.
f Supply of calves for Vaccination.
g Supply of iron, wood and other articles.

2. Blank Tender forms and documents showing the conditions to be complied with by the persons whose Tender is accepted and the earnest money required, will be supplied on payment of eight annas and postage fee at the Secretary's Office, Poona Cantonment Committee.

3. Tenders must be sent so as to reach the office of the Secretary Cantonment Committee, Poona, not later than 12 noon, on the 14th February, 1898.

4. The Undersigned will refuse to receive any Tender unless it be submitted in a sealed cover.

5. The authority to accept a Tender vests in the Cantonment Committee, who will at their discretion accept the highest or lowest or any other Tender, or reject any or all Tenders submitted.

6. The communication of acceptance of Tender will be put in course of transmission at any time within one month from the last day on which the Tenders are due.

E. D. NEWNHAM SMITH, Lieut.-Colonel,
Secretary, Cantonment Committee, Poona.
Poona, 27th January, 1898.

In the matter of the Estate of the late KHAN BAHADUR DADABHOY HORMUSJEE DUBASH, Deceased.

(In winding up.)

SALES OF VALUABLE IMMOVEABLE PROPERTIES OFFERED.

PRIVATE OFFERS for the Purchase of any one or more of the following properties of the above Estate will be received by the Administrators of the above Estate at the Office of Messrs. DADABHOY HORMUSJEE and Co., Parsi Bazaar Street, Fort, Bombay.

The offers should be sent under sealed covers and not later than by 4 o'clock in the evening of the 15th day of February next. The properties are the following, viz.:—

PROPERTIES IN BOMBAY.

1. Land with dwelling-house or Bungalow, Cookrooms, Outhouses and Stables situate Nos. 77-79 Chowpati, being the family residence of the said deceased. The land is of the quit and ground rent tenure and contains 5634 square yards or thereabouts.

2. Land with dwelling-house and building thereon, situate in Church Gate Street, Fort, bearing Municipal Street No. 12, Ward No. 1235. The land is of the same tenure as above and contains 361 square yards.

3. Land with dwelling-house and building thereon also situate in Church Gate Street, Fort, next to the above and bearing Municipal Ward No. 14, Ward No. 1236. The land is of the same tenure as above and is admeasuring 1574 square yards.

4. Leasehold land with chawls standing thereon, situate in Mangalore Street, on the Port Trust Estate, Mody Bay, containing 222 2-9 square yards bearing Municipal Street Nos. 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, and 26, Ward No. 2697.

5. Land with a spacious Bungalow thereon, situate on the Bazar Road, at Mahim, bearing Municipal Assessment Street No. 53 [A] 54 Ward No. 4734-25-26. The Land is of the quit and ground rent tenure and is 1479 square yards or thereabouts.

6. Land with Bungalow detached out-houses, stables and large compound situate also on the Mahim Bazaar Road, next to the last-mentioned Bungalow. It bears Municipal Street No 54 [A] 55 Ward No. 4735 [1] 4735 [2] 4736 and the Land which is Pension and Tax admeasures 4750 square yards.

PROPERTIES AT MAHABLESHWAR.

1. Government Leasehold Land with substantially built Bungalow, out-houses, etc., called the "Temple Hall." The and bears Survey No. 69 and admeasures 5 acres and 11 goontas. The annual rental of the property according to Mahableshwar guide is Rs. 2,000.

2. Government Leasehold land with Bungalow and premises called the "Parsonage". The Land is Survey No. 25, and contains 2 acres and 31 goontas. The annual rental of the property according to the Mahableshwar guide is Rs. 1,200.

3. Government Leasehold Land with Bungalow, etc., called the "St. James." The Land is denoted under Survey No. 61, contains 2 acres and 34 goontas and the rental is Rs. 1,500 by the same guide.

4. Government Leasehold Land with two Bungalows etc., standing on it called the "Rosary" and "Octagon." The land bears Survey No. 7 admeasures 30 goontas and the annual rental is Rs. 1,850.

5. Government Leasehold Land with a newly built Bungalow, etc., called the "Sandhurst Castle." The land is Survey No. 41 and admeasures 7 acres.

6. Government Leasehold land with Bungalow thereon called the "Florida Lodge" bearing Survey No. 229 and admeasuring 5 Goontas.

7. A plot of land called or known as the "Saveshan Land." It is Survey Nos. 66-67 and is 3 acres and 24 goontas.

8. Ditto. ditto. bearing same Survey Nos. and admeasuring one acre and 22 goontas.

PROPERTIES AT POONA.

1. Land with Bungalow &c., situateon the Treasury Road behind the Lunatic Asylum, admeasuring 155 feet in length and 220 feet in width and assessed under survey No. 182 admeasuring 13 goontas.

2. Leasehold Land with two Bungalows called "Spiers Bungalows" situate on the Old Road behind the Lunatic Asylum, admeasuring 165 feet in length and 67 feet in width and assessed under Survey No. 181 measuring 3 goontas.

3. Plots of agricultural land in the Nanded and Dhairi villages of the Haveli Taluka, Poona, viz:—

AT NANDED.

[a]	a plot measuring	8	acres	32	goontas,	Survey No. 23.
[b]	,, ,,	2	,,	15	,,	,, 26.
[c]	,, ,,	24	,,	6	,,	,, 21.
[d]	,, ,,	10	,,	17	,,	,, 22.
AT DHAIRI.						
[e]	,, ,,	7	,,	34	,,	,, 176.

PROPERTIES AT KIRKEE.

Land with two Bungalows at Kirkee Cantonment, Kirkee, bearing Nos. 2 and 25 situate on the Road leading from Poona to Kirkee Stations measuring 375-365, No. 2 and, No. 25 feet long and 233-237, No. 2 and No. 25 feet wide.

PROPERTY AT LANOWLI.

Land with Chawl and Buildings at Lanowli situate near the Bazaar and measuring 72 feet in length and 25 feet in breadth

PROPERTY AT KOLHAPUR.

Leasehold land with a Bungalow and Building measuring about 707 square yards situate on Brahmapuri at Kolhapur.

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UNION BANK OF LONDON.

BRANCHES in all Principal Towns of France, Calcutta, Bombay, Tunis, San Francisco, Chicago, New Orleans, Melbourne, Sydney, Tamatave and Tananarivo.

Current Deposit Accounts are opened, and Interest is allowed on Daily Balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000. Rates to be learnt on application.

Special arrangements may be obtained on application.

Deposit Accounts are Opened for Fixed Periods at rates to be ascertained on application.

Drafts and Letters of Credit issued payable at any of the chief Commercial Towns of the World.

The Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris beg to draw the attention of Travellers to its Letter of Credit Department in Paris at the Branch Office, 2, Place de l'Opera, in the very centre of the fashionable quarter of Paris, on the Boulevards facing the Grand Opera, and within easy reach of the principal Hotels, Theatres, and Shops.

Writing and Reading Rooms, Telephone, all necessary arrangements for receiving and despatching Correspondence, exchanging Money, letting Safes or parts thereof wherein travellers can deposit valuables which they do not wish to keep in the Hotels, further Strong Rooms for the storage of heavy luggage, etc.

Dividends, Coupons, etc., on Government Paper, and other Stocks cashed for Customers without charge if remitted Home through the Bank

Loans and Cash Credits granted on Government Paper, Gold, Silver, and Produce.

CH. HENRIOT,
Manager.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

CAPITAL £800,000
RESERVE FUND..... £375,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £800,000

HEAD OFFICE.
HATTON COURT, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON

AGENCIES AND BRANCHES:

Bombay.	Singapore.	Hankow.
Calcutta.	Bangkok.	Foochow.
Rangoon.	Kwala Lumpor.	Manila.
Colombo.	Batavia.	Yokohama.
Penang.	Sourabaya.	Kobe.
Thaiping.	Hongkong.	Tientsin.
Deli (Sumatra).	Shanghai.	

The Corporation GRANT DRAFTS on the above Agencies and Branches; buy and receive for collection Bills of Exchange; issue Letters of Credit; and undertake general banking business.

FIXED DEPOSITS

are received for TWELVE MONTHS at FOUR AND A HALF PER CENT per annum and for SIX MONTHS at FOUR PER CENT per annum. Rates for shorter periods may be ascertained on application

JOHN WILSON,
Agent.
Bombay Agency, Elphinstone Circle.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE:—MADRAS.

BRANCHES: London, Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon, Kurrachee, Rawal Pindi, Murree.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....Rs. 40,00,000
RESERVES AND REST.....Rs. 14,73,230

NOTE.—The RESERVE FUND will be INCREASED to Rs. 16,00,000 on payment of Balance of new Capital.

LOCAL BOARD:—

FAZULBHOY VISRAM Esq., C.I.E. | NOWROJEE JEHANGIR GAMADIA, Esq.
SASSOON J. DAVID.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED AS UNDER.

STERLING DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS, FOR HOME REMITTANCES, 4 per cent. per annum.

FIXED DEPOSITS received at 5 per cent. per annum for 12 months.

SPECIAL RATES are given for short periods during the busy season only.

Monies are received into the BANK'S PRUDENTIAL OR PROVIDENT FUND bearing half-yearly compound interest at 5 per cent. per annum.

CHEQUES, BILLS, HUNDIES, AND CURRENCY NOTES of any Circle are collected and credited free of charge in the above Interest Deposit Accounts.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS received 2 per cent. per annum up to Rs. 10,000 in the event of the balance not falling below Rs. 500.

OPEN CREDITS AND LOANS are granted upon any marketable security. BILLS, PROMISSORY NOTES are discounted.

Investment orders executed on the London Stock Exchange under Rules with London Bankers.

Apply for Rules to Head Office or Branches.

By Order of the Board,
C. BERESFORD,
Manager.
Bombay 20th July, 1897.

CREDIT LYONNAIS.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

CAPITAL (fully paid) Fcs. 200,000,000 = £8,000,000
RESERVE FUND.....Fcs. 40,000,000 = £1,600,000

BOMBAY BRANCH: ESPLANADE ROAD.

CENTRAL OFFICE: PARIS. HEAD OFFICE: LYONS.

BRANCHES in all the principal Towns of France and Algiers.

LONDON OFFICE: 40, Lombard Street, E. C.
WEST END BRANCH: 4, Cockspur Street, S. W.
BRANCH IN CALCUTTA.

FOREIGN BRANCHES.

Alexandria, St. Petersburg, Madrid, Brussels, Constantinople, Cairo, Moscow, Barcelona, Geneva, Smyrna, Port Said, Odessa, Jerusalem.

THE CREDIT LYONNAIS, BOMBAY BRANCH sells Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers on all parts of the world, negotiates and collects Bills and Coupons on the English and Foreign Towns.

Issues Letters of Credit.

Exchanges Foreign money, executes investment orders in Securities on all Indian, English, or Foreign Stock Exchanges, and gives information when required on Securities dealt in on the Leading Stock Exchanges.

Receives Securities for safe custody and collects interests or dividends on same on conditions to be arranged.

Grants advances in current account, or for fixed periods on Rupee paper, approved stock, shares, bullion, and produce.

Opens deposit accounts, allowing interest on the daily balances.

Receives fixed deposits on terms to be ascertained on application.

C. TROST,
Managers

A TERRIBLE COUGH.
A TERRIBLE COUGH.
A TERRIBLE COUGH.

"94, Commercial Road, Peckham, July 12.

"Dear Sir,—I am a poor hand at expressing my feelings, but I should like to thank you. Your lozenges, have done wonders in relieving my terrible cough. Since I had the operation of 'Tracheotomy' (the same as the late Emperor of Germany, and unlike him, thank God, I am still alive) performed at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, no one could possibly have had a more violent cough; it was so bad at times that it quite exhausted me. The mucous, which was very copious and hard, has been softened, and I have been able to get rid of it without difficulty.—I am, sir, yours truly, J. HILL."

A DOCTOR'S TESTIMONY.
A DOCTOR'S TESTIMONY.
A DOCTOR'S TESTIMONY.

"South Park, Cardiff, South Wales, Sept. 28, 1893.

"I have, indeed, great pleasure in adding my testimony to your excellent preparation of Cough Lozenges, as I have prescribed it now for the last eight years in my hospital and private practice, and found it of great benefit. I often suffer from Chronic Bronchitis; your Lozenge is the only remedy which gives me immediate ease. Therefore, I certainly and most strongly recommend your Lozenges to the public who may suffer from Catarrh, Bronchitis, Winter Cough, or any kind of Pulmonary Irritation.—Yours truly,

"A. GABRIEL, M.D., L.R.C.P., & L.M., Edinburgh L.R.C.S., & L.M., Edinburgh

USE KEATING'S LOZENGES.
USE KEATING'S LOZENGES.
USE KEATING'S LOZENGES.

"IN 1875 YEARS AGO" since KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES were first made, and the sale is larger than ever, because they are unrivalled in the relief and cure of Winter Cough, Asthma, and Bronchitis one alone gives relief.

UTTERLY UNRIVALLED.
UTTERLY UNR

BOMBAY BANK AND STOCK LIST

BANKS.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half-Yearly Divid.	Cash Rate.
INDIAN BANKS.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	all	10 p. c. + 1 bon.	1,240xd
Bank of Bengal	40,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,199
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,235
Commercial & Ld. Mge.	10,000 / 15,000	100	100 / 75	10 p.c.	123
EXCHANGE BANKS.					
Agra	1,00,000	£6	all	3 pr. ct.	80
Charter Bank	40,000	£20	£20	9 pr. ct.	£29¼
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	£125	all	£1-5s.	
National Bank of India	40,000	£25	£12½	7 pr. ct.	285

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

				Half yearly		
Ahmedabad ad v.	700	1,000	900	Nil		750
Alliance	1,500	1,100	all	Nil		490
Anglo-Indian ... Bunglad Sp. & M. Co. Ld.	1,345	...	90	Nil		40
Ballary S. & W. Co., Ld. (Ballary)	618	1,000	1,000	60		1,000
Bombay Unlted	872	60	all	8 per ct.		
Bombay Cotton Manfg. Co.	900	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.40		700
Bombay National Manfg. Co., Ld.	900	500	500	dvd Rs.30		589
China Mills Co. Ld.	500	1,000	1,000	...		890
Britannia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.50		675
Central India	1,000	500	500	dvd Rs.70		1,620
China Mills Co. Ld.	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.30		760
City of Bombay Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.50		970
Coimbatore S. and W.	6,000	100	100	9 pr ct.		125
Connaught Mills	600	500	500	25		760
Colaba Land & Mills	4,000	700	...	dvd Rs.12		520
Oooria Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.20		925
Currimbhoy Mill	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.40		980
David Mill	1,400	500	500	dvd Rs.40		487½
Dahlia Ginning and reeing		250	all	dvd Rs.20		250
DCo., Ld.	400	1,000	1,000	50		810
Dhan Mills	1,000	500	50	dvd 20		550
Empress	2,100	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.30		5 0
Framjee Cutl.	1,250	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.35		560
Hindmasan	875	1,000	1,000	dvd 14 x		200
Hingurghat Mills	700	500	500	40		670
Howard and Bullooghs	1,500	500	500	25		700
Hope Mills	500	1,000	1,000	50		600
Hyderabad	700	1,000	1,000	40		1,040
Imperial Cotton	900	500	500	dvd Rs.15		489
Indian Manfg.	90	1,000	1,000	50		1,010
Indo-China Manufacturing Co., Ld.	700	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.50		825
James Greaves	1,100	500	500	20		650
Jaffer Alli	600	500	500	dvd Rs.20		220
Jamshedjee Manufacturing Co.	1,800	250	250	dvd Rs.74		217½
Jewraj Balloo.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.20		750
Jubilee Mills Co. Ld.	843	1,000	1,000	20		575
Khandelsh	750	1,500	900	dvd Rs.30		837
Khangaum Manfg. Co.	400	250	250	Nil		950
Khatao Maokunjee	1,900	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.25		675
Leopold	3,500	100	103	dvd Rs.10		230
Lord Reay Mfg	445	1,000	1,000	30		675
Laksmidas Spinning & Weaving Co.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.50		1,020
Madras United	350	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.100		3,350
Mahalaxmee	600	1,000	1,000	Nil		460
Mahboob Shah Mills (Guiburga	8,400	500	500	15 pr ct.		...
Manockjee Petit	4,05	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 70		2,320
Mazagon	5,000	250	250	dvd Rs. 8		110
Morarji Goculdas	1,050	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.75		2075
Mysore S & M. Co., Ld.	4,000	250	250	dvd Rs.15		250
Madura Mills	7,779	100	100	Nil	par	
National	500	1,000	1,000	Nil		925
New Great Eastern	1,400	1,000	1,000	s. 20		375
Oriental	5,722	625	625	dvd Rs20		320
Presidency Mills, Co. (Ltd).	743	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs40		1,560
Queen Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs35		805
Ripon Mills	600	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs50		1100
Sassoon	1,500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs50		860
Shoiapore Mills	500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs60		2025
Soonderdas	750	1,000	1,000	yrly Rs50		775
Southern India	2,000	500	500	15		265
Southern Mahratta	1,212	250	250	dv Rs.124		350
Sun Mills, Ld.	1,200	250	250	Rs.50		280
Standard Mills Co.	1,600	500	500	25		110
Star of India	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil		800
Swadeshi Mills	3,000	500	500	dvd Rs.15		605
Sassoon and Alliance	3,000	500	500	dvd Rs.15		560
Union Spinning and Manufacturing Co.	500	1,000	1,000	56		515
Union Mills Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.30		900
Venkatesh ket Lukhmishunker C Mill Co. Ld.	900	500	900	dvd Rs40	410xd	
Victoria Mills	550	1,000	1,000	Nil	500xd	
Western India	1,200	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.50		665
Wadhwan City Ginning Pressing & Manufacturing Co., Ld.	400	250	all	dvd Rs15		255
Wadia Mills	1,600	1,000	1,000	...		...

PRESS COMPANIES

				Yearly	
Akbar	200	1,250	1,250	75	11%
Albert Ginning Co.	100	500	all	18 pr. ct.	45
Albert Kumrchee	200	1,100	1,100	Rs 80	1,035
Bollary	167	1,000	1,000	dvd 14 x	200
Bhowruggur City Press & Manfg. Co. Ld	550	250	250	25	
Bombay Cotton Broula Cawnpore Press Co., Ld.	1,000	125	125	dv Rs12½	125
Broach City Press Co., Ld	600	200	200	dvd Rs25	210
Colaba	500	1,880	1,880	dvd Rs15	315
East India	350	1,000	1,000	75	1,150
English Press and Manfg.	400	200	...	dvd Rs 8	85
ort	150	8,500	500	*25+80	1,100
French	300	500	500	dvd Rs80	500
Harvey Agni Sabapathy	450	450	500	dvd Rs40	355xd
Hingoli Press Co., Ld.	700	100	100	dvd Rs11	147
Khangaum	240	450	450	Rs 40	455
Manuva Press Co., Ld.	300	200	all	15 pr. ct.	210
Maharashtra Cotton G. and P. Co., Ld.	300	500	500	53	70
Mercantile	992	125	125	dvd Rs 8	85
Mofussil Co.	125	400	400	dvd Rs20	325
Munmar M	900	250	a	15	205
New Benar	600	500	500	dvd Rs15	525
New Indian	4,000	125	125	dvd Rs 16	152½
Prince of Wales, Bapathy (Bellary)	150	500	500	20	400xd
Sassoon	300	500	500	7	385
Sind and Punjab Co.	100	1,000	1,000	200	2,000
Sind	400	2,000	750	50	490
Sorab Woollen Mills	200	250	250	Nil.	75
Stat City Press Co., Ld.	37	200	all	12	200xd
Oikar		000	10	dvd Rs6	1,080

MISCELLANEOUS.

				Half yearly	
Alcock Ashdown	1,750	100	100	dvd Rs15	200
Back Bay Baths	500	50	50	12	45
Badham Flie	5,000	100	100	12	145
Bombay & Burma Trading Corporation	1,000	2,500	1,500	300	6,150
Do. New Issue	500	375	625	75	1,550
Bombay Ice Mfg. Co., Ld.	1,250	100	100	dvd 5	57
Bombay Land and Building Co, Ld.	400	500	500	5-pr. ct	50
Bombay Flour Mill	4,000	500	500	50	1,200
Deccan Paper Mill	1,000	500	500	5-pr ct.	205
Delhi and Northern India Flour Mills	1,500	200	200	dvd Rs10	217½
Delhi Cloth & General Mills Co. Ld.	2,800	250	250	8 pr. ct.	350
Empire of India Life A. Co., Ld.	2,000	500	50	...	52
Indian Guarantee Surety Ship Assn	5,000	100	10	10 pr. ct.	18
John Roberts & Co.	1,500	100	100	10 pr. ct.	175
Kemp & Co.	4,000	200	175	21	348
Kurrachee Landing	500	500	300	30	18
Marcks & Co., Ld.	4,000	100	100	dvd Rs15	145
Napier Hotel Co	2,000	100	100	9 pr. ct.	40
Napier Foundry	1,000	100	200	...	60
Oriental Govt. Security Life Insurance	5,000	200	50	12 pr. ct.	140
Phillips & Co., Ld.	4,000	100	100	dvd Rs 6	71
Port Canning Co.	6,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs20	455xd
Soundy & Co.	1,000	100	100	5	494
Treacher & Co.	2,000	500	500	60	1,035
Thacker & Co.	1,500	100	100		147
Telephone Co.	9,200	251	100	dvd Rs11	2

PRICES OF BULLION, &c.

English Gold	Rs. 21-7
China Leaf	,, 24-5
Pekin, bar Gold, old	,, 24-6
Do. do. new	,, 24-4
Australian, bar Gold 100	,, 24-7
Bombay bar Gold	,, 24-6
Sovereigns	,, 15-4
Do. Dispoint	,, 15-3
Bar Silver 17	,, 72-8
Do. 17	,, 72-10

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 31m. Sun sets, 5h. 58m. High water, 1-14m., 1-35a. Low water, 7-18m., 7-11a.

Chamber of Commerce, ballot for election of a Port Trustee, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Municipal Corporation, 3 p.m.

Bombay Foxhounds meet at Wankola.

Novelty Theatre, "The Magistrate," by the Thespian Club, 9-30 p.m.

PRINCE'S DOCK.—The steamer Carthage entered the dock yesterday.

POLO.—There will be no game, to-day.

FORT GRATUITOUS DISPENSARY.—The total number of patients treated during the month of January last was 1,991, the daily average 64, and the total number of new admissions 1,001—Parsis 733, Hindus 170, and other castes 98. The number of children vaccinated was 38.

RELIGIOUS LECTURE.—A public lecture will be delivered in Gujerati at the Blavatsky Lodge, Theosophical Society, Bombay Branch, 37, Hornby Road, Fort, at 6 o'clock, this evening. Subject :—"Comments on some of the subjects treated in the 'Khorshed' and 'Mehr Nias' of the Zoroastrian Religion."

FIRE AT MAHIM.—A jowlee hut, belonging to Mr. F. Wallace, and occupied by one Keroo Keshowji, at Lady Jamsetji Road, Mahim, was found to be on fire on Tuesday evening, and before anything could be done to save it, it was razed to the ground. The fire-engine from Chinchpoogly arrived and extinguished the flames. The damage is estimated at Rs. 150. The origin of the fire is attributed to the careless use of the fire-place.

"FOR SAFE CUSTODY."—Hazirabai, a Mahomedan widow, residing at Nizampura Street, has reported to the police that about a month ago she entrusted a locked copper box, containing gold and silver ornaments, of the value of Rs. 450, to a man named Mahomed Hazam, for safe custody. On the 7th instant, the man informed the complainant that the box had been stolen from his room during his absence from home between the hours of 3 and 6 a.m. that day.

PLAGUE AND BURGLARY.—Jackoodin Essabhoy, a resident of Bombay, at present putting up at Poona owing to the prevalence of plague in the former place, received a telegram from a friend in Bombay, informing him that his house in Dharamsey Street, Bhendy Bazaar Road, had been broken into by removing two of the iron bars of a window on the second floor. The complainant sent his servant to Bombay, who on examination of the place discovered that an entrance had been effected into the house through the window in question, a cupboard and a box forced open, and gold and silver ornaments, of the aggregate value of Rs. 188-4, stolen therefrom.

SCALDED TO DEATH.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at Haines Road Cemetery, touching the death of Pavoobai, a Hindu woman, aged twenty-five years, residing with her son at New Nagpada. On an afternoon, about twenty-five days ago, the deceased, while engaged in the kitchen, was lifting a chatty containing boiling milk off the fire-place, when the chatty accidentally upset and its contents went over the deceased's legs, seriously scalding here. Her son brought some medicine from a hakim and applied it to the scalds. The woman, however, got no better, and during the last three days she had given up food, becoms very weak, and died on Tuesday. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

A BAD REPUTED SERVANT.—Before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Jamal Ebrahim, a Mahomedan of bad repute, having a record of three previous convictions against him, was charged with theft of five watches, of the aggregate value of Rs. 30, the property of his master, Haji Cassum Oosman, a watch and clock repairer of Falkland Road. The complainant employed the accused in his service a few days ago without making any inquiries as to his antecedents. On the afternoon of the 4th instant, complainant went home to have his meal, leaving the accused in charge of the shop. During the absence of his master the accused stole five watches from the shop, and made his way to Mahim. On Sunday he went to the shop of one Ebrahim Hassam at Mahim, and asked the shopkeeper for a loan of Rs. 2 on the pledge of one of the watches. The shopkeeper, who had already noticed having had some suspicion as to how the accused had come by it, he gave information to a policeman on duty, who arrested the accused, and on searching his person discovered four other watches in his possession. In the meantime the complainant, finding the watches stolen from the shop case in his shop, reported the matter to the police, and while the latter were making inquiries into the matter, the accused was brought to the shop by the Mahim police, and was identified by the complainant as his absconding servant. The complainant also identified his stolen watches. The accused in his defence said that the complainant owed him some money, which he refused to pay, and he therefore stole the watches, which were always kept with him. He, however, admitted three previous convictions. He was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

THANA NEWS.—Our local correspondent, writing on Tuesday, says :—Dr. Framroz Ardesir Moos, L. M. and S., Acting Civil Surgeon of Thana, has been appointed President of the Thana Municipality, vice Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel K. R. Kirtikar, I. M. S., resigned.—At the quarterly general meeting of the Thana Municipality, held in the Municipal Hall, on the 22nd ultimo, the following gentlemen were re-elected to be members of the Managing Committee for the quarter ending the 31st March next :—Messrs. Mukundrao Anant Ovalekar (chairman); Merwanjee Nowrojee Anita, Rameshandar Ganesh Phalak, and Cowasjee Byramjee Divecha. Five cases of Mahadu and seven other kolis are, at the instance of Narayan Changu, charged with disorderly conduct at Rabodi near Thana, last week. They were tried by Rao Saheb Narayan Bhawanrao Powghi, Mamlatdar and First Class Magistrate of Salsette (Thana), yesterday. The magistrate, having examined the complainant, postponed the case until this morning, releasing the accused on bail. Azam Moropunt Mookhtyar was engaged to prosecute the case on behalf of the complainant, and Azam Babasab Nanabhai represented the accused. The court was crowded by a large number of kolis from Bhoiwada to hear the case.—Dhunjibhai Nasarwanji, a young Parsi boy who was suffering from bubonic fever in Rangari Mohola, near Dr. Kharshedji Byramji Divecha's house, was removed to the Plague Hospital, at Utnisar, for medical treatment yesterday. Young Dhunjibhai is employed in an office in the Fort at Bombay, and was a daily passenger from Thana and back. He had a slight attack of fever in Bombay on Saturday, which caused him to stay at home in Thana. All his men were segregated and his house and those of his neighbours are being disinfected and lime-washed by the Municipal servants.—There are thirty-two men and twenty women under observation in the Segregation Camp near the G. I. P. Railway station, at Thana, to-day.

ST. JOSEPH'S FOUNDLING HOSPITAL.—The secretary and treasurer of the above institution begs to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following donations from 1st July to 31st December 1897 :—(General Fund)—H. H. the Maharaja of Kolhapur, G. C. S. I., and Khan Bahadur Hajee Sajun Laljee, each Rs. 25; Arthur Stephen Moriarty, I. C. S., Khan Bahadur Eduljee Sorabjee Chinoy, and J. H. Du B., each Rs. 15; the Hon'ble Sir Charles Farran, Kt. (Chief Justice), Mr. P. C. H. Snow, I.C.S., Rajah Shew Bux Bagla, F. S. F., Mr. L. M. Wadia, Bar-at-Law., Rai Jotindra Nath Chowdhury, W. C. and Mr. R. B. Lean, each Rs. 10; the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Buddrudin Tyabjee, Mrs. Flora Sassoon, Khan Bahadur Rustomjee Muncherjee Dhotu, C.I.E., Mr. Bezonjee N. Kapadia, Mr. R. M. Kennedy, I. C. S., Mr. Naoroji S. Talati, Mr. B. Phillips, Babu Bolkunt Nath Sen, M. R. Ry., R. Vadanta Charlu, Mr P. F. Fischer, F. V., Mr. A. M. Finlay, Mr. F. C. Allen and A.B.C., each Rs. 5; and Babu Mani Mohan Sen, Rs. 2. (Christmas List)—H. E. the Right Hon'ble. Lord Sandhurst, G. C. I. E. (Governor of Bombay), Sir George Cotton, Kt., the Hon'ble Mr. Arthur Stephen Moriarty, I. C. S., H. J. R., C. L., Mr. H. R. Greaves, A. M. T. J., Mr. Jamsetjee Ardaseer Wadia, and M. F. S. Fairfield, each Rs. 10; the Hon'ble Sir Charles F. Farran, Kt., the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Buddrudin Tyabji, Brigadier-General F. Ventris, J. M. C., J. McN., J. H. Du B., P. S., Mr. Alex. J. Azabeg, H. E. E. P., J. D. and Co., E. W. K., Mr H. R. Dunk, R. A. E., Comptoir, J. M. S., E. C. B. A., P. B., W. L. & Co., Messrs. S. J. Tellery & Co., Bai Modeebai Jehangeer Wadia, Standard Oil Co. of New York, I. O. C., E. F., A. S. Mrs. A. Bapty, J. M. D., F. G., C. B. W., D. N. G., E. F. N., H. G., P. T., A. L., Framjee Muncherjee Cama Charity, G. W. M., Hormusjee Eduljee Cama Charity Fund, Mr. Ardashir Pestonjee Setna, J. L. S., C., Mr. J. Beebie, M. O., C. B. L., D. H. G., B. N., D. M. H., Mr. Framjee Bomanjee Jeejeebhoy, Messrs. Marcks & Co. Ld., W. W. P., Mr. W. Murray and Mr. W. Richardson, each Rs. 5; Mr. S. D. Sassoon, E. G., Mr. R. H. Patuck and R. S. P., each Rs. 3; K. Y., S. J. D., C. H. S. B., F. C. A., D. D. C., J. A. J., Mr. Premchand Roychund, J. B., J. G., and Mr. R. F. Wadia, each Rs. 2. Further donations will be thankfully accepted and acknowledged.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

ALL is quiet in the Khyber. General Symons visited Ali Masjid on the 6th. The telegraph wire was cut between Bara and Mamani on the night of the 4th and 5th.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL KEMPSTER vacated the command of the 3rd Brigade, Tirah Expeditionary Force, on Monday, to take up his appointment on the staff of the Madras Army Staff.

THE exchange of stations between No. 6 and 9 Batteries Royal Artillery at Mandalay and Darjeeling has now been postponed until next cold season.

THE latest advices from Mekran report that Turbat fort was still held by Mehrab Khan, Gitehki, and that Colonel Mayne proposed to attack on the 4th instant if the fort was not surrendered beforehand. It is understood that Colonel Mayne offered Mehrab Khan his life if he would make an otherwise unconditional surrender.

QUITE the most pleasing social event of the present season in Madras, a season that has been marked and is yet to be marked by many delightful functions, was the marriage on Saturday last, at St. George's Cathedral, of Miss Alice Millicent Grose, eldest daughter of the Honourable Mr. James Grose, Member of Council, Fort St. George, and the doyen in Madras of the Indian Civil Service, to Surgeon-Captain Gerald Godfray Giffard, Resident Surgeon at the General Hospital, Madras. The greatest interest had long been felt in anticipation of the auspicious event of Saturday last, for the bridegroom has acquired a very high professional reputation and is exceedingly popular as a sportsman and an all-round "good fellow," while the bride has the double advantage of being beloved for her own sake and for the sake of her parents, her father having earned for himself universal affection and esteem through an absolutely unblemished record of thirty-seven years' service in this country, and her mother being the daughter of a former highly respected Archdeacon of Madras, the chief ecclesiastical dignitary in the diocese, next to the Lord Bishop.

THE building of the Asiatic Society in Calcutta suffered severely in the earthquake of last year, and Dr. Hoernle, in his presidential address, has proposed, by way of meeting the heavy bill for repairs, that some of the oil paintings belonging to the Society should be sold. One of these is a rural scene by the younger Morland, and there are others of considerable value. The proposal might be regarded as in some sense a sacrifice of art to archæology were it not that Calcutta, with its hot and moist climate, is not the place to keep oil paintings of any value.

ORDERS have been issued for the strengthening of the Tirah Expeditionary Force by the 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Regiment. The orders for the move of the battalion to Mhow have therefore been cancelled for the present. The matter, as we said some months ago, could not be allowed to rest where it was, and as the authorities apparently did not see their way to grant an inquiry into the circumstance under which the regiment was sent back from the front, it was meet that the first opportunity should be taken to send it forward again.

THE total number of deaths registeren in Calcutta during the week ending 29th January was 252, against 275 and 251 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 10. There were 9 deaths from cholera, against 3 and 1 in the two preceding weeks ; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by 6. There were 3 deaths from small-pox during the week, against nil in the previous week. There were 5 deaths from tetanus against 2 in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 67 and 20, respectively, against 78 and 37 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 285 per mille per annum, against 33·2, the mean of the last fine years.

FROM the 1st ultimo, a new dietary scale has been introduced in the Madras Penitentiary, by which mutton, which was issued three times a week, is now restricted to one day in the week and dholl is being issued in lieu of mutton. The prisoners do not seem to be affected by the change, as both the Surgeon-General and the Inspector-General of Prisons, at their recent inspection, found them to be in good condition and health. This arrangement has effected a reduction in the cost of feeding the prisoners.

A SATIRICAL treatise entitled, "Australia for the Germans," complains very resonably that Australian are rather unwise to throw open their country, without restriction, to all comers from any and every sovereignty under the sun. The satire has been suggested by an article that recently appeared in one of the most widely circulated German newspapers, the *Kolnische Votkszeitung*, which seriously discussed "Australia as a Field for German Industry," and as a Continent "which has room for all European nations" and in which it is by no means too late for Germany "to get a fair footing for ever." After gloating over the fact that "England enjoys no privileges in Australia," the writer urges the great German steamship companies to foster German communications, he urges the foundation of a German bank in Sydney, with branches in the other large towns, the foundation of a good German brewery, which would knock English beer out of the market, a serious cut into the wool trade, and sundry other little undertakings by which Germany would be bettered. He winds up :—"If German capitalists would only co-operate, as English capitalists have done, and if a German bank assisted them therein, the outcome would be that German influence in Australia and in the entire South Sea would develop enormously. It is needless to point out that commerce would prosper in consequence."

MADAME SARAH BERERHARDT has made a formal application to the Burgomaster of Brussels for the lease of the Theatre Royal du Parc. She writes to this official that her ambition would be to make a first-rate theatre in Brussels for the production of Belgian and French plays, but Belgian in preference. "I would do the impossible," she says, "that this charming theatre may become the temple of art, of ethics, and on morality." Madame Sarah Bernhardt does not intend to give up her residence in Paris ; but then, as she pleads, Brussels is so near Paris, and in her absence she will be always represented by the manager.

WRITING of the disturbances in Paris a correspondent says :—It was hoped that the Anarchist outrage would serve as a counter-irritant to the exitement among the Paris students, but it does not. The storm centre was in the Rues S. Lazare and Chateaudun. This was because the antisemites wanted to demonstrate in front of Rothschild's Bank in the Rue Lafitte. They held a council of war in the Place du Havre, at which it was decided that "Rothschild, as King of the Jews," should have the honour of a first visit. A correctional judge named Weil, who has sentenced every student brought before him, was also to be called on. But there were large bodies of police stationed round the Rothschild Bank and in the streets leading to it, and the synagogue in the Rue de la Victoire. Many charges were made. A child's head was cleft in the Chaussee d'Antin with an accidental slash of a policeman's sabre. On the south side of the Seine the landlords of cafes refused to let Students' committees use their premises. No young fellow looking like a student was received at the Café du Pantheon. A number of Dreyfusite students had declared in a Socialist paper their intention to meet there. They proclaimed M. Zola an honour to humanity, and invited their brethren to organize a demonstration in his favour. Towards three a number of rapscallions gathered in the streets round the Sorbonne and the College de France. They were supposed to be auxiliaries of the police, hired to throw discredit on the students. A deputatson of the studious youths was sent to the divisional Police Inspector at the Pantheon to protest against the intrusion of these ill-looking fellows. He replied that so long as they kept on the move he could not interfere with them and the best way not to be mixed up with them, was to go home. There might have been seven hundred students in one "monome," and four or five hundred in another. Attempts were made to demonstrate near barracks and the War Office, but were defeated, fifty arrests being made. M. Zola's house was strongly guarded by police. That author has served a list of 250 witnesses on the Procurator of the Republic. A good many of them are graphologists and experts in handwriting, but the sort of evidence they give having fallen into disrepute, he will chiefly depend on what he calls his moral proofs.

THE SEDITION BILL.

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

THE following report of the Select Committee on the Bill to ammend the Indian Penal Code in relation to extra-territorial offences was presented to the Council of the Governor-General of India for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations on the 4th of February, 1898 :—

We, the undersigned, members of the Select Committee to which the Bill to amend the Indian Penal Code in relation to extra-territorial offences was referred, have considered the Bill with the further amendments in the Penal Code given notice of at the meeting of Council held on the 21st of December, 1897, and the papers noted in the list appended, and have now the honour to submit this our report, with the Bill as amended by us annexed thereto.

2. Clause 2.—We have altered illustration (*b*) to this clause by making it apply to a Native State in India. We think it is unsafe to attempt to define the status of tribal territory in an illustration.

3. Clause 4.—We have carefully considered the new clause proposed by the Government, and we have inserted it in the Bill with the following amendments :—

(*a*) For the expression "the Government" we have substituted the phrase "the Government established by law in British India." This restores the language of the Act of 1870. Having regard to the terms of Section 17 of the Indian Penal Code, which denines "Government," the omission of the words "established by law in British India" might be held to give an extended meaning to the term "Government," whereas it ought to have exactly the same meaning as in the Act of 1870.

(*b*) We have altered the term of imprisonment from ten years to three, thus restoring the law of 1870. The term of ten years is provided as an alternative for transportation in Sections 121A and 122; but apparently the framers of the Act of 1870, in Section 124A, wished to draw a marked distinction between minor offences and offences of a very serious character where transportation would be the only appropriate punishment.

(*c*) We have omitted the words "or promotes or attempts to promote feelings of enmity or ill-will between different classes of her Majesty's subjects," and have framed a new clause to deal with the offence thereby indicated. It appears to us that the offence of stirring up class-hatred differs in many important respects from the offence of sedition against the State. It comes more appropriately in the chapter relating to offences against the public tranquillity. The offence only affects the Government or the State indirectly, and the essence of the offence is that it predisposes classes of the people to action which may disturb the public tranquillity. The fact that this offence is punishable in England as seditious libel is probably due to historical causes, and has nothing to do with logical arrangement.

(*d*) We have omitted the words "or ill-will" at the conclusion of explanation 1. The expression "all feelings of ill-will" appears to us to be too wide and vague. It is only when feelings of ill-will amount to disloyalty or enmity that they constitute such disaffection as is contemplated by the clause. A certain amount of ill-will may be compatible with genuine loyalty.

(*e*) We have added explanation 3 to make it clear that criticism on the action of Government is not confined to cases in which it is sought to bring about an alteration of what has been done. For example, suppose the Government make an appointment which is considered objectionable. That appointment may be criticised, although the criticism may not have in view the cancellation of the appointment. We have made consequential amendments in explanation 2 to make the language of the two explanations uniform.

4. Clause 5.—The object of framing this clause has already been detailed. In framing it we have altered the words "enmity or ill-will" into "enmity or hatred," and we have fixed the maximum punishment at two years' imprisonment.

We recommend that this clause when passed should be included in Section 195 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, so that offences under it only be prosecuted under the authority or with the sanction of the Government.

5. Clause 6.—We have inserted the clause proposed by the Government, but we have altered and enlarged the scope of the exception to the clause. No doubt the statements, rumours and reports referred to are of a highly mischievous character, but, having regard to the conditions under which modern journalism and the discussion of public questions are necessarily carried on, we think that, when the statement, rumour or report is published without any criminal intent, it is going too far to require the person who published it to prove its actual truth. To require such proof might be throwing an impossible burden upon him, and it should be sufficient for him to show that he had reasonable grounds for believing it; as for instance, by showing that he made due inquiry before he published it.

M. D. CHALMERS, C. M. RIVAZ, C. C. STEVENS, H. E. M. JAMES, P. ANANDA CHARLU.* G. H. P. EVANS,† LAKSHMISHAR SINGH‡.

MINUTES OF DISSENT.

So far as I know, there never has been any serious doubt expressed as to the true meaning of Section 124A now in the Penal Code. No difficulty could arise except upon the view that the explanation attached to the section cannot be read along with it as virtually defining the term "disaffection." It has thus become urgent to remove the difficulty interposed by that view. This is best met by following the instance of the explanation into the form of a definition as follows :—

"Feelings of disaffection mean all feelings incompatible with a disposition to render obedience to the lawful authority of the Government established by law in British India and to support the lawful authority thereof against unlawful attempts to subvert or resist that authority."

This, which has come from the Defence Association, I suggested in the Committee and the majority were against me. By adding to such a definition proviso such as Mr. Stephen has made part of his Section 102 in his "Draft Code," the law will, in my judgment, be elucidated far better than by the proposed explanations, which I am for omitting as a necessary consequence.

The proposed words "hatred, contempt and enmity" are, in my opinion, the very worst that could be chosen. Standing by themselves, they are, in the last degree, vague, misleading and obscure. By giving room for a small amount of fanciful speculation, they cannot fail to prove most hurtful to public interests by spreading a sense of uncertainty and virtually stifling all frank discussion of public questions. I would, therefore, score out, from the clause now proposed, the words "to bring or attempt to bring into hatred or contempt or." I may also point out that the definition I have recommended would be wide enough to cover all forms of real political hatred, which should be penalised. I very much doubt whether what is proposed in the Bill as contained in these objected words is good or sound law as the present day.

I am for eliminating the penalty of transportation from the section. A study of the history of this section shows how it is a mistake in the section and how the Law Commissioners, who sat on the original Draft Penal Code, criticised it in strong terms. The danger of retaining it has been already once exemplified, and may be, any day, exemplified again and again. The danger lies in its being viewed—as it is too sure to be by not a few—as the maximum, permissible in all cases except where extenuating circumstances or other grounds for leniency exist.

I am opposed to the proposed clause 153A as a dangerous piece of legislation and as being impolitic (among other reasons) by necessitating Government to side with, or to appear to side with, one party as against another. In my humble judgment it will only accentuate the evil which it is meant to remove. Far from healing the differences which still linger, or which now and then come to the surface, it would wide in the gap by encouraging insidious men to do mischief in stealth, with the sure hope that the Government would come down on such as openly resented. It would have all the repressive effect which the proposed amendments on 124A cannot fail to have, much to the detriment of undoubted rights and useful work.

In clause 505, as proposed to be altered, I would omit the words "or which is likely to cause" from each of (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) and substitute the words "and thereby to endanger any person" for the words whereby any person may be induced" in (*b*). Intent being in this, as in 124A, the essence of the offence, the words which I have objected to must of necessity introduce a world of confusion which might be easily illustrated. They are bound to operate prejudicially to public good. It is, perhaps necessary to add with reference to clause 153A and the changes in 505, that, whereas the prior sanction of Government which is prescribed will be something of a guarantee, it will mostly depend on the strength with which the case is urged by the District Officer; for I fear that, in the face of a strong representation by the latter, the Government would,

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB. 9.

CONSOLS were unchanged in value yesterday in London at 112 1-2, also Indian Sterling Loan at 116 1-2. French Rentes were 1-4 per cent. higher at 103 3-4, and Paris Exchange on London 1-2 centime at 25·24 1-2 fcs. Rupee Securities, 3 1 2 per cents advanced 1-16 per cent. to £63 3-4. Bar Silver declined 1-16d. to 26 1-16d. per oz. ; and 3-8 cent. in New York, to 56 3-8 cents per oz., while demand Exchange on London was 1-2 cent higher at 4·85 1-2 dollars.

White Delhi Wheat was quoted at 35 1-8s. per 492 lbs., April-May shipment, to Hull, sellers via the Canal ; Yellow Guzerat Rapeseed at 38 1-4s. per 416lbs., April-May shipment, to Havre, Antwerp, and Dunkirk, market firm.

The total quantity of Wheat afloat on Friday last was 2,500,000 quarters against 2,430,000 quarters at the end of the previous week.

Spot Mid.-Americans Cotton advanced in Liverpool yesterday to 3 5-16d. per lb. The market at closing was steady, Surats firm, Arrivals steady. The day's sales were 15,000 bales, and the Imports 73,000 bales. The Manchester market closed firm.

Owing to mutilation of the advices by wire from New York, no fresh news is to hand to-day of the American Cotton market.

A small business has been done to-day in our local Cotton market. The tone is steady, and prices show no quotable change from yesterday's level. Shippers have taken 2,950 bales, and the Mills 500 bales.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay yesterday, were as follows :—

Cotton	5,920	bales.
Wheat	298	cwts.
Linseed	556	"
Rapeseed	1,539	"
Gingelly	5,834	"
Castorseed	1,205	"
Rice	5,103	"

FREIGHTS are quiet and unchanged.

EXCHANGE opened steady at 1s. 3 7-8d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 4 1-16d. for three months' right Credits. In the latter there was nothing offering for any delivery, and for Bank Paper also the demand was very small. Closing quotations are given as follows :—

Bank Bills on Demand	1s. 3 7-8d.	per rupee.
Do. Telegraphic	1s. 3 7-8d.	"
Do. 3 months' sight	1s. 3 15-16d.	"
Credits 3 do.	1s. 4 1-16d.	"
Francs 3 do.	1·09	"

GOVERNMENT PAPER remains in the same quiet state, and 3 1-2 per Cents are to day given at 96 1-4 for Cash, and 97 for the Settlement ; Threes are unaltered.

SHARES.—There has been a little more movement in this market to-day, and we have to report an advance of Rs. 20 in Lukhmidas Mills, and Rs. 10 in Central India ; a decline of Rs. 10 in Imperial Cotton, Rs. 7 1-2 in Manockjee Petit, and Rs. 5 in Colaba Land and Mill. New Indian Press are Rs. 10 higher, and Alcock Ashdown, Rs. 5 ; Bombay Burmah are Rs. 50 lower. Bank of Bengal have declined Rs. 40, National Bank, Rs. 15, and Commercial Bank, Rs. 2.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE s s Kassala, 2,497 tons, Captain B K Butler, cleared, yesterday, for Antwerp, with a general cargo.

THE Bombay and Persia S N Co's s s Naseri, 911 tons, Captain F J Raffin, will sail to-day, for Aden, Jeddah, &c. with a general cargo, and 20 deck passengers.

THE s s Albion, 619 tons, Captain W Ritchie, arrived in harbour yesterday, from Bangkok, 21st January, with a general cargo. The vessel is consigned to Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart and Co.

THE B I S N Co's s s Chanda, 1,391 tons, Captain C R Kendall, will sail to-day, for Karachi and the Persian Gulf, with a general cargo and the following passengers :—Mr and Mrs Ash and child, Mr Hassan bin Ebrahim, Mr R Knight, Mr Hajee Josub Hosein, Mr Abdool Hajee Joosub, Mr Mahomed Abdoola, Mr Abdoola bin Alli, Mr Mahomed Reunas and two children, Mr Rashed, Mr Ahmed bin Abdool, and Mr Abdoola bin Mahomed, and 65 deck.

VESSELS IN DOCKS.—FEBRUARY 9.

PRINCE'S DOCK.

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.*	Agents.
H	Tokio	2151	Jones	Karachi		F M & Co
C	Naseri	912	Raffi	Red Sea Ports		B P S N Co
D	Chao Ogilvy	1699	Young	China	16-2	P M & Co
G	Satellite	892	Kleue	Zanzibar	18-2	F Heyer
P	Radley	1381	Tulloch	N F	Bombay Co. Ld	
Q	Haijen	1813	Smith	Hamburg	K Nixon & Co	

HARBOUR WALL.

Mahanadi	547	Baker	N F	S & Co
Sabarmati	524	Fakeera	G Ports	10-2 S & Co

VICTORIA DOCK.

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
1	Peshawur	2203	Vibert	China	16-2	P & O S N Co
6	Thames	2221	Barcham	China	16-2	P & O S N Co
7	Pocidon	2432	Mayer	Trieste	12-2	A L S N Co
9	Melpomene	1845	Martinolich	Trieste	16-2	A L S N Co
11	Haj Pawady	458	Jughaus	Mauritius		V Ebrahim
15	Kassala	2497	Butler	Hamburg		Finlay Muir

MERREWETHER DRY DOCK.

Merkara.....3094 tons gross.....B I S N Co

* Probable date of departure.

Time Ball drops at Prince's Dock at Noon, or Greenwich meantime, 7h. 8m. 44·3s.

The Time Ball on the Clock Tower at the Bombay Castle continues to be dropped regularly at 1 p.m. of Colaba mean time, or 8h. 8m. 44·3s of Greenwich meantime.

ARRIVAL.

Feb.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
9	Albion s	Ritchie	Bangkok, Jan 21

DEPARTURES.

Feb.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
9	Kurrachee s	Robertson	Marseilles
	Ceres s	Pickthorn	Calcutta
	Melbourne s	Duchatean	China, &c

The following vessels obtained their port-clearances, yesterday :—
Steamer Chanda, Kendall, for Persian Gulf,
" Naseri, Raffin, for Jeddah, &c.
" Kassala, Butler, for Antwerp.

* The steamer Mobile entered for loading yesterday for Aden.

* To arrive.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

Feb. 4 Lightning s.....Spence .....Hongkong, Jan 18

DEPARTURES.

Feb. 4.—Steamers Maharani, Ayr, Juanita North, Terra, Kohinur.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES,

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY COLONEL R. S. BROWN, V. D., COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, 10th February, 1898.

1. The Regiment will parade on Saturday next the 12th instant at 5 p.m., at the Gymkhana end of the parade ground, for Commanding Officer's parade. Dress—Review order—Khaki.
2. The Regiment will fall in for church parade at the Gymkhana end of the parade ground at 5 p.m. on Sunday next the 13th instant. Dress.—Khaki, helmets and side arms. Pouches will not be worn.
3. The class of Instruction for Proficiency certificates will assemble at Head-quarters at 5-15 p.m., on Friday the 11th instant. Members attending should bring rifles, &c. Dress.—any.

By Order,
C. MOSS, Captain,
Adjutant, B. V. R.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR G. W. ROUGHTON, A.D.C., COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, 10th February, 1898.

1. There will be 10 in. R. M. L. gun drill at the Fort and Nesbit Road Head-quarters to-day (Thursday) at 8-45 p.m.
2. The proficiency class will meet at the Fort Head-quarters to-day, at 8-45 p.m.
3. The Corps will parade for Class Firing at Cooria on Saturday next, the 12th instant. Trains leave the Victoria Terminus at 2-30, 3, and 3-30 p.m., and Byculla 12 minutes later in each case. Dress drill order, "Carbines only" Putties to be worn. Light refreshments will be provided.
4. There will be a meeting of the Regimental Committee at the Fort Head-quarters to-morrow (Friday) at 6-30 p.m.
5. The following matches will be competed on Sunday next, the 13th instant.

Match V.—Open to Gunners and Honorary Members of the B. V. A. only. Rangers 200 and 500 yards. 1st prize, a Cup, presented by Messrs. Marcks and Co.

Match VI.—"H. E. the Governor's Cup," open to all efficient Volunteers.—Ranges 200 and 300 yards.

1st Prize.—A Cup presented by H. E. the Governor. Competitors in this match must use the M. H. Carbine or Rifles.

Match VII.—"The Celerity and Precision Match." Conditions, Competitors to start from the 300 yards Firing Point on the word "advance" run to the 200 yards Firing Point, and fire as many shots as possible in one minute.

1st Prize.—Presented by Brig.-Genl. Ventris.

Match VIII.—"Disappearing Target." Open to all efficient Volunteers. Range 200 yards. Competitors to fire 7 shots at a disappearing target.

1st Prize.—Presented by Messrs. Cutler Palmer and Co. Prospectus with further conditions, &c., may be had on application.

6. Leave of absence have been granted to Corporal A. Wilson for three (3) months from this date.

By Order
A. J. PEILE, Lieut.-R.A.,
Adjutant B. V. A.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

DALRYMPLE-HAY—January 31, at Motiharee, the wife of G H Dalrymple-Hay, Jugowbel Banah, of a son.
HALDAR—February 5, at Jahanabad (Hooghly), the wife of Sukumar Haldar, Sub-Divisional Officer, of a daughter.
MULLER—January 31, at Tanjore, the wife of Mr J FA Muller, Salt, Abkari and Customs Department, of a daughter.
ORR—February 6, at Madras, the wife of Edward W Orr, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

GWATKIN-WILLIAMS—SHILLINGFORD—February 1, at Purneah, by the Rev Fr Fillet, S J, Augustus Gwatkin-Williams, eldest son of the late Edward Gwatkin-Williams, Assistant Manager of the Durbunga Raj, to Ellen, youngest daughter of the late Charles Alexander Shillingford, of Munsiye Factory, Purneah.

DEATHS.

KELLNER—February 4, at Calcutta, Edwin Webb Kellner, C I E, late Accountant General, Punjab.
TODD—January 22, at Bangalore, after a long and painful illness, Annie Margaret, the loving wife of Mr Hugh Todd, Extra Assistant Superintendent, Survey of India, in her 47th year.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1898.

THE Queen's Speech opening the Session of 1898 deals with many subjects of exceptional interest, on some of which, departing from the conventional reticence characterising royal utterances on such occasions, it throws very welcome light. The first clause is an exception, being the stereotyped assurance that her Majesty's relations with all Foreign Powers are friendly. It will be impossible for the historian to gather from that declaration that one of her Majesty's Ministers only a fortnight ago deemed it his duty to threaten some of these friendly Powers with war if they persevered in their evil courses in the Far East. It can scarcely be supposed that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach was speaking without book when he made that portentous reference to the last reason of Kings. The Chancellor of the Exchequer would not be the man to utter such a threat lightly, or without consultation with his colleagues ; the more especially as it is contrary to diplomatic usage to speak of war while the continuance of peace is still possible. Lord Palmerston laid it down as an axiom not to begin negotiations with an ultimatum. It cannot be supposed that negotiations can be much helped by one of the parties to them blurting out that he is determined to have what he wants even at the cost of war. The brief reference to the relations between her Majesty and "all" Foreign Powers is in accordance with precedent, while that of her Majesty's Chancellor of the Exchequer was not. It may therefore be regarded as distinctly reassuring ; the more so as it seems to confirm the statement that Lord Salisbury has resolved that Great Britain shall not be made the cat's-paw of China, and assumed a more conciliatory attitude towards Russia. The hope is expressed that the difficulties in the way of a unanimous agreement in regard to Crete will be surmounted before long ; in other words, that the Sultan may yield to the desire of Russia and England, that Prince George shall be entrusted with the Governorship of that Island. Such an appointment under such august auspices would be the first step towards the annexation of Crete to the Hellenic Kingdom ; a step desirable in itself on many grounds, but one which Russia has hitherto strenuously opposed. The Sultan's refusal to accept the condition of the Prince who landed a hostile force in Crete before the declaration of war is natural, especially as the Suzerain has the support of the German Emperor in the matter. The exigencies of German feeling in the North Pacific render the good-will of Russia indispensable, and the probability is that the Berlin Foreign Office would tacitly acquiesce in the solution of the Cretan difficulty in the sense favoured by other Powers. The intimation in the Speech from the Throne that the obstacles in the way of a settlement will be surmounted before long might have had its justification in these considerations if they were not scattered to the winds by the telegram since to hand stating that the Czar has withdrawn the candidacy of Prince George.

Not the least important paragraph in the Speech has reference to the sudden discovery that the military situation in the Soudan, which was the subject of so much jubilation, is very serious and lies within the possibilities of a great disaster : 'Owing to intelligence received, which is apparently trustworthy, of the Khalifa's intention to advance against the Egyptian Army in the Soudan, I have despatched a contingent of British troops to Berber to the assistance of the Khedive." It is necessary to note that the Egyptian Army of eighteen thousand men, represented as advancing with sure and steady step to the deliverance of Khartoum and the restoration of the Egyptian Dominion over the whole of the Soudan, find themselves in separate detachments of varying strength spread over a line seven hundred and fifty miles in length, while the Khalifa with from sixty to seventy thousand troops occupies a position of advantage which would enable him, moving on interior lines, to strike any point in the arc. The Egyptians are so disposed that the different detachments cannot render each other any effective support. So far the Khalifa has not turned the opportunity thus presented to him to any account. When the Turkish Vizier besieging Vienna with 200,000 veteran troops committed a very similar fault, allowing the German and Polish arms of relief to get within striking distance without taking advantage of his superior strength, Sobieskie said to his colleague : "Fear nothing ! The Vizier is a man of no capacity. Which of us would have let such an opportunity slip ?" The same may possibly be said now by General Gatacre to General Kitchener. The recognition in the Queen's Speech of the possible reversal of roles which would allow the Khalifa to take the offensive if he had a mind to, is not the less interesting. The announcement of the conclusion of a treaty of friendship and commerce with King Menelik is not qualified by any allusion to that potentate's refusal to accept a delimitation of his dominions short of the White Nile and of the appointment of a Russian officer to the Governorship of a new Abyssinian province to be carved out of the Equator for him, with the assistance of Prince Henry of Orleans. There will be time enough to consider the international bearings of that notable project, when it has advanced beyond its present stage. Passing over the expected announcement that Parliament will be asked to vote money to help the West Indies in the difficulties caused by the competition of bounty-fed sugar in the English market we come to the war on our North-Western Frontier. The rising of the tribes is ascribed to an outbreak of fanaticism so strong that it led many tribes to break their engagements, attack military posts, and invade British territory ; expeditions were sent to punish their outrages and insure peace in the future. There is no hint that they were sent to further a forward policy, or compel barbarians to accept the domination of the superior civilisation of the neighbours. Nor is their any reference to the effect of the Durand Treaty—to say nothing of the Chitral episode—in arousing the fanatical spirit of the mountaineers. For that we must turn to the Blue Book, published apparently while the Royal Speech was being read, giving the important despatch in which the Secretary of State directs the attention of the Viceroy to the causes that contributed to the revolt of the tribes. The Royal Speech while acknowledging the courage and endurance of the troops, European and Native, and deploring the loss of so many valuable lives, abstains from any intimation that the military operations on the frontier have come to an end. Lord George Hamilton lays down certain leading principles, which if observed will cut short these resultless operations. In the first place the military authorities are to consider how best to concentrate the forces on the frontier so as to be able to cope with their different responsibilities. Had this principle been acted upon three years ago military posts would not have been scattered over the mountain region between Peshawur and Chitral, and the tribes would not have been so suspicious about the inner meaning of the Durand Treaty. The second principle is that the Government are to avoid all unnecessary interference with the tribes. To this end the Secretary of State has declined to sanction a proposal, apparently made by the Government of India, that a tribute should be imposed on the Afridis and Orakzais. Sanction has been withheld also from the projected disarmament of the tribes. The futility of that project has been very clearly shown by the demonstrated impossibility of compelling the tribes to give up their arms even when demanded by a force of two divisions present on the Tirah Plateau.

The Secretary of State speaks with an air of conviction of the necessity of controlling the wholesale traffic in arms and ammunition on the frontier. We published yesterday a telegram from our Calcutta correspondent, which shows that the results of examination of the weapons surrendered to the Mohmand and Malakhand forces were nearly all stolen at various times from the troops in India. If those "thefts" can be effectually checked, the supply of weapons of precision to the tribesmen will be sensibly diminished. But as long as a rifle worth Rs. 95 can be sold for Rs. 300 beyond the frontier, so profitable a trade will not be allowed to languish for any considerable length of time. The rifles are to the tribesmen a necessary of life ; they are the only kind of police to which they can look for protection ; the only courts of justice from which they can expect redress. They are of Juvenal's opinion that to the poor and the oppressed arms are a necessity. Whether the tribes are armed or not is a matter of very secondary importance if their suspicions are not needlessly aroused by a mistaken policy. Lord George Hamilton's despatch is distinctly reassuring, inasmuch as it expressly declines to sanction measures which would have deepened the distrust of the tribes and prescribes a course of policy the avowed purpose of which is to allay the suspicions so unfortunately called into existence during the last three or four years. Had there been no Durand Treaty and no annexation of Chitral, nothing would have been heard of the fanaticism of the tribes. The decision to return to a wiser policy and allay the suspicions so wantonly aroused is the more to be approved, when it is found necessary in "view of the enormous armaments now maintained by other nations" to incur an expenditure beyond former precedent to increase the strength and efficiency of the army. It is of little avail to add to its strength, if 70,000 of our best troops are to be employed for six months at a time to overawe two hundred thousand tribesmen, who only ask to be let alone and allowed to cut each other's throats in peace.

THE exceptional interest and importance of the events affecting commercial interests during last year, especially in Bombay, was reflected in the proceedings of the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday afternoon. The currency history of the twelve months, the legislation proposed to amend the Stamp Act and other measures affecting commerce, the progress made in railway extension—all these would in ordinary times have absorbed a great deal of attention. But the Plague and Famine between them have exercised a greater influence on trade than all the other matters combined with which the Committee has had to deal. The famine is happily at an end, as the Queen's Speech reminds us, and it was therefore only natural that the attention of the members principally should be directed by the speakers to the plague epidemic, with more especial reference to the inexplicable attitude of indifference, if not of hostility, assumed by Government towards inoculation. The effects of the visitation, from which we have now suffered for sixteen months, have been so injurious to trade that Mr. Abercrombie, the retiring Chairman, was quite justified in congratulating the members upon the power of recuperation that has been displayed. The trade of the city, though greatly curtailed, has not been suspended, and although unhappily the epidemic is still with us, the position to-day, commercially speaking, is very much better than it was twelve months ago. When the annual meeting of the Chamber was held last year, Sir George Cotton and Mr. Savile, the representatives of the Chamber on the Corporation, defended the Municpal executive from the charges of lack of energy, which in the panic of the moment were being brought against them by citizens who had never taken the trouble to personally inquire what was being done. Yesterday there was quite as much need for someone to stand forward in defence of the existing plague administration, but no one took up the cause. It was clear from the heartiness and unanimity with which Mr. Gilbert's resolution was carried that there was a consensus of opinion that while the Plague Committee is not wanting in energy and devotion to duty, that energy is unwisely concentrated upon measures which have so far proved inadequate to stamp out the plague, and is not directed to the method proved in Damaun, Kirkee, and other places to be efficacious in protecting those resorting to it from the epidemic. The late chairman while giving every credit to the members of the Committee for their personal devotion to the important work assigned to them was the first to give expression to this opinion, and the keynote Mr. Abercrombie struck was taken up by Mr Gilbert, Mr. Moses, Mr. Remington, and Mr. Symons.

They all heartily supported the view, again and again insisted on in these columns, that there is urgent need for a much more general resort to inoculation than hitherto. It was unanimously resolved to urge Government to encourage and offer every facility for inoculation, and that the Plague Committee should be asked to exempt from detention and segregation persons who can produce satisfactory evidence of having been inoculated within the previous four months received strong support from these speakers. The indifference, if not actual hostility, of Government and the Committee to inoculation was the subject of especially strong comment by Mr. Gilbert. He showed from verified statistics the marked protective effect of Professor Haffkine's prophylactic. It is altogether beside the mark for the Committee to point to the facilities given by the Municipality as absolving them from the duty of encouraging inoculation. They are the body to which the work of suppressing the plague was assigned last March, and their indifference to protective inoculation is, as Mr. Gilbert said, a shirking of responsibility. Moreover, it is calculated to induce a similar indifference on the part of the general public. The present attitude of negation should, he argued, be changed for active endeavour to popularise inoculation on the lines indicated in the resolution passed by the Chamber. The exemptions suggested would do more than anything else to popularise the protective serum, and tend to counteract the injury trade now suffers from restrictions, which Mr. Abercrombie accurately describes as "preventing traders coming and causing those who are here to wish themselves away." As Mr. Gilbert said, the press and the public are at one in supporting that view of the case. Seeing there are at present no signs of abatement of the epidemic—yesterday's total mortality of 348 was the highest yet reached—the Chamber of Commerce has every right, representing an important section of the public, to urge on the Government and the Plague Committee the paramount necessity of a change of the inexplicable attitude which they have taken up.

No one proposes or desires coercive measures in this direction. As the mover and the seconder of the resolution both pointed out, without any compulsion whatever the Committee can do a great deal to assist the movement. For instance, the fear of being carried off to a plague hospital if fever follows on inoculation keeps large numbers of people from submitting to the process—a fear which could be removed if the Plague Committee would notify to the public that this will not be done. We are glad to learn that a resolution similar to that adopted by the Chamber is to be submitted to the Municipality, and we anticipate that it will be unanimously carried. But while the need for the general diffusion of protection of inoculation is the question of immediate concern, the all-important subject of permanent sanitary reform must not be neglected, and it was not lost sight of yesterday. Mr. Remington was well within the mark when he declared that until we get rid of the present water-logged condition of the city, and until it is adequately sewered and drained, we shall never have a healthy population, and never be free from the imminent danger of recurring epidemics. The rate of progress towards this consummation has so far been extremely slow. As we showed the other day, at least two years will elapse before the pumping machinery will be available for discharging the sewerage of the districts at present undrained, while in regard to the subsoil matter the Committee appointed to consider the scheme of the Municipal Special Drainage Engineer has not yet arrived at any conclusion. It was suggested yesterday that Government should exercise the bludgeon clauses of the Municipal Act to compel more rapid progress towards the completion of these pressing sanitary reforms. It must be admitted that they are of even greater urgency than the rebuilding scheme, which the Chamber of Commerce has so heartily endorsed.

IT is very deplorable that on the 9th February the total mortality in Bombay should reach the high figure of 348. But it is worth remembering that on January 15th last year, with a population of little more than half that number in the city, the figures stood at 344. The proportional mortality is strikingly reduced when we take into account that the four deaths in excess of the highest mortality last year, has to be spread over three hundred thousand inhabitants more than were in the city a year ago. Mr. Vincent, the Commissioner of Police, calls our attention to another fact which it is well to bear in mind in this connection. Up to the same date last year fifty of the Bombay Police had been attacked by plague. Up to yesterday, only four policemen had suffered from plague. Three of these had been attacked up to the 10th of January. From that date none had suffered until yesterday, when one case was reported. The strength of the force is the same ; their duties are the same ; they have to patrol the same streets in the same infested districts. This year the number of cases of plague is not one in twelve of those who suffered last year. The difference is attributable to the greater abundance and cheapness of food which make for greater resisting power on the part of the population at large, which, judging from the figures, share to no inconsiderable extent in the comparative immunity of the Bombay Police force.

AT the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held yesterday afternoon, the retiring Chairman gave a review of the events of the past year, and in the course of his remarks urged that Government and the Plague Committee should do far more than at present to encourage inoculation. Mr. Gilbert made a vigorous speech in support of this view, and moved a resolution calling upon Government to encourage and offer every facility to the people to be inoculated, and asking the Plague Committee to exempt from detention and segregation persons who can produce satisfactory evidence of having been inoculated within four months previous to the proposed detention. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Remington, supported by Messrs. S. M. Moses and Symons, and unanimously carried

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

THE CANDIDACY OF PRINCE GEORGE.

LONDON, FEB. 9.

It is reported that the Tsar has withdrawn, at all events temporarily, the candidacy of Prince George for the Governorship of Crete.

LORD SALISBURY ON INDIA.

Lord Salisbury, referring to India in his speech, last night, in the Lords, said that Government had no wish to occupy a single position not absolutely necessary for the security of India and the fulfilment of Treaty obligations.

It was, he said, extremely important to avoid rash annexation, which had proved the ruin of great states.

RUSSIA AND THE CHINA QUESTION.

The Russian assurance to make any Port she might obtain in China a free Port was spontaneous and written.

THE ZOLA TRIAL.

In the Zola Trial the Court excludes all evidence tending to re-open the Dreyfus case.

LORD SALISBURY ON THE CHINA QUESTION.

Lord Salisbury, in the Lords, last night, said he hoped before many months passed that Khartoum would be restored to Egypt.

His Lordship said that China had represented that she would be much embarrassed if the proposal regarding Talienwan was maintained, and it had therefore been settled to postpone the question of Treaty Ports until the Railway had reached Talienwan.

Russia and Germany, he said, had assured Great Britain that any Port they obtained would be a free Port.

The Lords then voted the address in reply to the Queen's Speech.

THE GREEK INDEMNITY LOAN.

Mr. Balfour in, the Commons, said that Great Britain, France, and Russia had agreed to guarantee the Greek indemnity loan.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

In the second innings New South Wales has made 87 for one wicket.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of Mr. Hugh Matheson, of Jardine Matheson's firm.

THE MAIL.

ADEN, FEB. 9.

The P. and O. Co.'s s. s. Caledonia, with the Homeward mails of the 5th instant, arrived at Aden, at 5 p.m.

THE MEKRAN EXPEDITION.

TURBAT FORT EVACUATED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, FEB. 9.

The Turbat Fort has been evacuated by Mehrab Khan.

The Cavalry surrounded Charbak Fort on the night of the 3rd.

Owing to report that Mir Rustom and Mehrab Khan's family were being harboured, the Infantry and guns are making a forced march and joining the Cavalry at 10 a.m., on the 4th.

THE PESTILENCE IN POONA.

POONA, FEB. 9.

There were 4 cases and 4 deaths in the City, to-day, and the total mortality 9; no case or death in the Cantonment; one case in the Suburban limits; and 3 cases and 3 deaths in the District.

There are in all 139 patients under treatment in the General Hospital.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

LONDON, FEB. 8.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Manilla (extra) left here, to-day, for China direct.

SUEZ, FEB. 7.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Menzies, from Calcutta, Madras, and Colombo, arrived here day before yesterday evening.

LIVERPOOL, FEB. 8.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Macrae left here this morning.

ADEN, FEB. 9.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Golconda left here yesterday evening.

The Florio-Rubattino Company's steamer D. Baldinno left Aden, for Bombay, on the 7th instant, at 9 p.m., and is expected to arrive in Bombay on Sunday, the 13th instant.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, FEB. 8.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed steady. Surats firm.

Good Bhownuggur	2 26-32.
The Manchester Market has been firm.	
2½ per cent. Consols	112 1-2
3 per cent. Rentes	103 3-4
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	116 1-2
2½ per cent. Rupee Paper	63 3-4
Bar Silver	25 1-16

THE Queen's personal interest in India is the subject of an article in "The English Illustrated Magazine" by the Moulvie Rafiuddin Ahmad. He naturally notes as the culminating point of that interest her determination, when she was in her 72nd year, to begin the study of Hindustani. He says it is really wonderful how the Queen, in spite of her multifarious duties, finds time to write the day's account in her Hindustani diary. He also tells of these incidents. The Queen-Empress one afternoon while enjoying her customary drive, saw an Indian ayah pass by in the street. It was a cold day, and her Majesty noticed that, besides having only very thin clothes, the ayah had no shoes on. Her Majesty grew anxious in regard to the ayah's health, and inquired to know why she had no shoes on. On being informed that she possessed none, the Queen ordered a pair for her, and admonished her to take care of herself in this strange land. A few years ago the Queen saw a crowd of Meccan pilgrims standing outside Buckingham Palace. It being brought to her notice the pilgrims desired to see the Palace but were not allowed to do so by the authorities, her Majesty ordered that everything of public interest in the royal residence should be shown them.

THE French Society for the Protection of Animals has come in for the splendid legacy of 120,000 francs. The testator is a Madame Chassegros, originally a modiste, and then a professional beauty of Imperial France. She married an old admirer, who left her a large fortune. After his death she sold her private house near the Place St. Georges, and went to live in a flat in the Rue St. Georges. She was very fond of horses, and had a tendeness for dogs. One of the occupations of her old age in summer was to go about the streets looking for cab horses evidently the worse for wear. If she saw one not drawing a fare, she beckoned to the driver and chided him for not giving a bucket of water to his horse and sponging his nose. If he accepted her rebuke she gave him a few francs. The legacy to the Society for the Protection of Animals is made subject to different specified conditions. They are, amongst other things, to offer the city of Paris almost to double the number of watering-places for horses, and to endeavour to obtain a longer period between the taking up of a stray dog and its execution. Should the time be extended the dogs are to be kept up during its course at the expense of the society. A certain number of detectives are to be engaged to secure the punishment, under the Grammont Law, of carters and cabmen who treat their horses cruelly. Prizes are to be given to the owners of hard-worked horses of thriving appearance. The more base the blood of the horse, and the greater the age, the higher is to be the prize.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, JAN. 21.

A WELL-KNOWN bimetallist organ complains that the wording of the official announcement in London last week respecting the bill introduced into the Governor General's Council in India is somewhat misleading. It was stated that the bill was for the purpose of enabling the Government of India to issue currency notes, not only "as hitherto" against gold held by that Government in India, but also against gold held by the Secretary of State for India in this country. Persons not familiar with the Indian currency arrangements might infer from this statement that paper currency has hitherto been issued in India against gold, and even that such currency has been issued against gold only. As a matter of fact, the notes issued in India are issued against silver rupees—so far as they are not fiduciary,—and the reserve held against them consists of such rupees and Government securities, the latter being held against the fiduciary margin. Since the closing of the Indian Mints to the coinage of silver for private account the Indian Government has announced that it will issue rupees or currency notes in India in exchange for gold coin or bullion at the rate of 1s. 4d. per rupee, or 15 rupees to the sovereign. But we are not aware that any gold has yet been tendered in India for rupees or notes; if gold has actually been received by the Indian Currency Department during the recent stringency, the amount must be relatively small. Practically, therefore, the words "as hitherto" must be taken as implying merely that the Indian Government has had the power, and has been willing, to issue notes in India against gold tendered there, and not that such operations have actually taken place. The notes issued in India are redeemable in silver rupees. What is now intended, therefore, is an extension of the power so as to enable the Indian Government to issue notes in India, still redeemable in rupees, against gold tendered in London to the Secretary of State for India and held there for account of the Government of India. The paper goes on to point out "The effect of the issue of additional notes against gold in London will be to increase the amount of the fiduciary issue—for the gold will not be available in India for the redemption of notes or to further drain rupees from the existing reserve. The more the rupees are drawn away the smaller will be the proportion of the reserve. And it is not merely the proportion of the reserve that must be considered, but its absolute amount. It may be said that it will take some time to drain away upwards of 135 millions of rupees. But already the amount has been reduced 62 millions below the theoretical amount, and with an increasing rather than a decreasing volume of purely fiduciary notes the hoarding habits of the people of India, and no replenishing of the supply by mintage meanwhile, the more the reserve declines towards the danger-point the more will the decline be likely to proceed by leaps and bounds. On the other hand, a further coinage of rupees, even on account of the Indian Government, would be a renewal of the "gold standard" policy." The "Times" expresses the opinion that there is not much likelihood of gold being tendered or "deposited" in London on the terms proposed. The "Times" gives as a reason for this opinion the fact that "the Indian Government, not having adopted the gold standard, would be under no obligation to give back gold on the presentation of notes in India;" and adds that "the sooner it is in a position to meet this obligation the better." The statement that the Indian Government has not "adopted the gold standard" obviously means simply that the Indian Government has not made its currency notes or its rupees redeemable in gold.

In the United States Senate on Monday Mr. Wolcott spoke of his recent bimetallic mission to Europe. He had, he said, only visited London and Paris. Mr. M'Kinley had from the outset unswervingly supported him. As France, Great Britain, and Germany had within the previous year made declarations favourable to silver, it was decided to bring the subject to the attention of those nations. Naturally a beginning was made with France, owing chiefly to M. Meline's belief in bimetallism. It was agreed that France and the United States should present the question to Great Britain. Mr. Wolcott proceeded to detail at length the joint negotiations on the part of the Commissioners and the French Ambassador in London with the British Government. At first, he said, there seemed to be but few difficulties in the way, and he quoted the resolutions on the subject passed by the House of Commons and the utterances of Mr. Balfour and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach. "We were therefore," he continued, "not intruders, and we received the welcome we had a right to expect. Our official treatment was everything that could be desired. Our proposals were treated with full consideration, as were also the members of the Commission themselves. I am, however, not surprised at the prevalence of a different view in the United States, which is based on the intemperate, hostile, and somewhat brutal utterances of the London press respecting our proposals. The newspapers of London are like the newspapers of many capitals of the world, dominated by the allied banking element, and reflect their views and often their expressions. Money loaning is an engrossing pursuit, not always tending to the cultivation of the amenities of life. It is therefore not to be wondered at that the London papers, voicing that industry, should in their hostility to a policy they disapproved forget for a moment the courtesy due to the stranger within their gates, due especially when he comes upon their invitation, and that they should have been led to characterise as impertinent proposals which had only been made at the request of their own Government." Mr. Wolcott, who proceeded at great length, said later on that he was sure he was not violating any confidence when he said that the Indian Government's protest against the re-opening of the Indian mints had surprised the British Government. The famine in India was one of money rather than of food, and our offer of what we believed to be a remedy was refused. That refusal must be considered as final until the failure of the experiment in India has been entirely demonstrated. For the time being it is useless to count on the co-operation of Great Britain. France owes no further duty to the bimetallic cause, as, in days when the influence of the money-lender is potent in almost every capital, and dominates courts and national policies, she has stood fearlessly by the interests of the whole people. Mr. Wolcott announced his intention to retire from the Commission, but he sincerely believed that an international agreement was still feasible, although it might be necessary to change the proposed ratio to something like twenty to one. In conclusion he contrasted the attitude of Mr. Gage, Secretary to the Treasury, with that of Mr. M'Kinley, and declared that Mr. Gage's Currency Bill would reach limbo before it reached the Senate.

In their Indian and Ceylon tea share report Messrs. Gow, Wilson, and Stanton, of London, say that the market has, as yet, hardly recovered from the quiet which naturally attends the close of the year. The Indian tea market opened on January 3, and prices were well maintained throughout, with good general competition. The sale on January 10 comprised 43,988 packages, the largest quantity of Indian tea ever brought to auction in one day; the sale, however, went off well without any change in quotations. The exports from April 1, when the season begins, up to December 31 last have been officially reported by telegraph from India as 121,140,000lb., as against 117,390,000lb. for the corresponding period in 1896. At the opening of the Ceylon tea market on January 4 the closing rates of 1897 were fully maintained, with a good all-round demand. At the sale on January 11 competition was strong for all grades, and prices in some instances showed a hardening tendency. The exports from Ceylon for the whole of last year, January to December inclusive, have been officially reported by telegraph as 99,000,000lb., as against 94,750,000lb. for 1896. The following Indian dividends have been declared:—Baraoora, an interim of 3 per cent. on ordinary; Borjan, an interim of 2 per cent. on ordinary; Singlo, 1 per cent.; Moran, an interim of 5 pet cent. on ordinary; Nedeem, a dividend at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum on ordinary.

In view of the announcement which has been made to the effect that one of the conditions of the proposed English loan to China is to be the right to extend the Burmah Railway through Yunnan, a press representative called at the offices of the Burmah Railways Company for the purpose of ascertaining the present position of the railway enterprises in that country. It was stated that the line from Mandalay to the Kunlon Ferry, on the river Salwen, had so far only been carried to Mogaing, and some two or three more years would elapse before it would reach Kunlon Ferry, which was on the borders of the Yunnan country. Another extension was being made from the Mu Valley to Myitkina, on the Irrawaddy. The traffic by the various navigable waterways was considerable, whilst that on the railway, which consisted to a large extent of rice, was carried beyond Mogaing—the present terminus of the railway works—by means of pack animals. The distance from Mandalay to Kunlon Ferry was about 270 miles, and the Yunnan country beyond had not as yet been surveyed. The line from Mandalay to the Salweh river was commenced in the latter part of 1895.

Speaking at a dinner given to him by the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Chamberlain, on Tuesday, expressed the opinion that at no time in recent years had British trade been more seriously threatened than now, or threatened from more various quarters. Markets of great value and markets of potential importance which were formerly open to all the world had either been closed or they had become liable to a policy whose object was to create a monopoly for a single nation, and above all to exclude our enterprise and industry. Twenty years ago we might have had the undeveloped portions of the globe for the asking. He did not say we were wrong, but we were content that these places should be open to all the world. Within the last twelve years, however, some of the great Continental Powers had been bitten with the megalomania with which our German critics were wont to taunt us as if it were our exclusive peculiarity. If he were asked why we should not leave to our competitors the barren honour of conquering and of civilising sparsely populated and unhealthy countries, he would reply that there were two reasons. The first was that it was absurd to measure the possible value of an undeveloped country by its present condition, and the second was to be found in the difference in the commercial policy of the great nations of the world. Where we had conquered we had conquered for civilisation, and we had never attempted to put barriers against other people. Our best policy at present was not the acquisition of new territory but the maintenance of free markets, even where that involved the acquisition of new territory and the taking up of a very firm attitude in regard to any attempts which might be made to deprive us of territory which we already possessed. He held that we had a threefold duty—in the first place, to keep what rightly belonged to us; in the second place to use Lord Rosebery's admirable phrase, to "peg out claims for posterity"; and, in the third place, if anyone tried to "rush" those claims, gently to prevent him. There was no nation that during the last twenty years had made such sacrifices in order to preserve cordial relations with its neighbours as Great Britain. We alone, without compulsion, not under pressure of any Power, but voluntarily and of our own motion, had again and again surrendered territory that was in our possession and had called back the pioneers of our flag in civilisation. Under successive Governments we had deferred to the sensibilities of our allies. We had shown a conciliatory temper in the face of much provocation, and the result was that to-day we were told that we were the best hated nation in Europe. That we had heard before, and it did us no harm. But it constituted a warning to every Englishman which we could not ignore, that if we were to maintain our own—as we intended to do—we must rely on our own strength or our own preparation, and not on the favour of those whom we had vainly sought to make our friends.

The raw cotton trade of Bremen pursued a steady course during the past year, according to the report of the Bremen Chamber of Commerce. There was an encouraging development of business in raw American cotton, and the imports of that staple are said to have shown a decided increase compared with the figures for the preceding year. During the past few weeks the market has been very quiet, buyers manifesting a more reserved disposition. Spinners, however, are said to be only moderately supplied with the material, and hence more active buying, both by the trade and speculators, is expected, with a further fall in the prices. It is added that it is difficult to report on the trade in East Indian cotton, as business in this staple in Bremen, as in other European markets, continues to decline. Spinners buy this description almost exclusively on cost, freight, and insurance terms, and buyers feel the continually increasing competition of the Indian, Japanese, and Chinese spinners so keenly that it seems probable that the trade in Indian cotton will die out in Bremen. The imports of cotton of all kinds into Bremen last year amounted to 1,310,862 bales, as against 1,123,206 bales in 1896.

At a meeting of the Royal Statistical Society on Tuesday, Mr. Courtney, M.P., in the chair, Mr. J. A. Baines, C. S. I., read a paper on the recent course of trade within the British Empire. He touched on the balance of trade during the last thirty years to show the tendency of late for the exports in the chief colonies to exceed the imports. The rest of the calculations in the paper were based on the relation of each period of five years since 1867 to the mean of the whole 30 years, and he showed the general rise under various fluctuations of both exports and imports, recent progress having been remarkable in this respect, except in Australasia, where, for reasons well known, there had been depressed conditions. This fact was the more remarkable when the general fall in money values was considered. Mr. Baines gave illustrations from the principal colonial returns in confirmation of the generally prevailing lowering of price. Direct lines of shipping and the increased demand for colonial produce had largely widened the market for our more important dependencies and offshoots. Except in Canada and the West Indies, where the United States was acquiring the dominant position in commerce, the preponderance of British trade was made clear by the proportions of each country's dealings on the total trade of the colony. We had reached apparently a stage of our economic history in which we could no longer rely to anything like the same extent as heretofore on the natural advantages of our country in the shape of its mineral wealth. A long period of peace and steady concentration of the popular attention on the application of science to industry were bringing up our neighbours to our level, though the distance between us was still very great. Instead of buying our manufactures, they invested in our raw or half-raw material, so that we nursed the pinion which impelled the steel of competition into the breast of our colonies or even the mother country. He saw nothing in this more active competition but what could be adequately met by our own enterprise.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking at the dinner of the Swansea Chamber of Commerce, on Tuesday, admitted that as to the future prospects of our trade, he was something of an optimist. The doleful prophecies that were current regarding our trade were founded generally on too limited a period of time and too insufficient an area. The volume of trade should be taken into consideration as well as the values, and there was no question that the volume of our trade had enormously increased. It was our duty, as one door was shut by prohibitive tariffs, to see that others were opened. There was no doubt our commercial relations with the Far East were at present occupying largely the attention of this country. We did not regard China as a place for conquest or acquisition by any European or other Power. We looked upon it as the most hopeful place of the future for the commerce of our country and the commerce of the world at large. The Government were absolutely determined, at whatever cost, even—he wished to speak plainly,—if necessary, at the cost of war, that that door should not be shut against us.

THE NEW UNIVERSITY FELLOWS.

TO-DAY'S Government "Gazette" will contain the names of the following gentlemen as having been appointed by Government Fellows of the Bombay University:—Surgeon-Major-General G. Bainbridge, Mr. Sheriarji Dadabhai Bharucha, Mr. J. C. G. Bowen, Rev. Thomas Henriques, D.D., Ph. D., D.C.L., etc., Rao. Bahadur Shriram Bhicaji Jatar, B.A., Mr. J. N. P. Muir Mackenzie, I.C.S., Mr. Jamsedji N. Tata, Rev. E. P. Taylor, D.D., (Ahmedabad), Mr. Casim Sumar Thariain, and Professor N. G. Velinkar, M.A., LL.B.

THE first ties of the Championship Polo Tournament were played at Lucknow on Monday afternoon. The first game, between Patiala first team and Lucknow Gymkhana, was won by the former by 4 goals and 8 subsidiaries to 1 goal and 2 subsidiaries; and in the second game the 18th Hussars beat the 5th Dragoons by 8 goals and 5 subsidiaries to 1 goal. Boath games were fast and well contested, despite the difference in the scores.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

WARDS.		No. of Attacks.	No. of Deaths from Bubonic Plague.	Total Deaths from all Causes.
A	Upper Colaba	0	0	10
	Mid. & Lower Colaba	4	1	
	Fort, Southern	0	0	
	Fort, Northern	15	4	
	Esplanade	0	0	
B	Mandvie	1a	6	50
	Chuckla	7	0	
	Umarkhady	10	8	
	Dongri	3	5	
C	Market	19	3	55
	Dhobi Talao	17	3	
	Fanaswady	11	4	
	Bhuleshwar	10	1	
	Khara Talao	6	1	
	Kumbarwada	7	2	
D	Khetwady	12	3	17
	Girgaum	11	1	
	Chowpaty	3	1	
	Walkeshwar	2b	0	
	Mahaluxmi	0	0	
E	Mazagon	2	2	58
	Tadwady	1	1	
	Second Nagpada	1	2	
	Kamatipura	13	10	
	Tardeo	9	2	
	Byculla	12	5	
	First Nagpada	0	0	
F	Parel	2	1	8
	Sewree	0	0	
	Sion	0	1	
G	Mahim	1	0	7
	Worlee	5	2	
	Water Division	0	0	0
	N.-R. & Unknown	0	2	2
	HOSPITALS.			
	Parsee		8	
	Jain		7	
	Grant Road		10	
	Halai Memon		1	
	Cutchi Memon		1	
	Genl Mahommedan		2	
	Kolsa Moholla		1	141
	Jain, Parel		5	
	Telugu		3	
	Madanpura		2	
	Hindu		6	
	Govt. House, Parel		4	
	Arthur Road		33	
	Islami Nagdavi		1	
	Darlastnan		8	
	Modykhana		7	
	Port Trust		1	
	Maratha		13	
	Mardwadi		0	
	Bhatia		7	
	J. J. Hospital		0	
	Vassanjee T		1	
	Laud & Kapol Joint		4	
	Brahma Khutri		2	
	3rd Bachwada		2	
	Oomer Jumal		1	
	Khoja		1	
	Total	185	202	348
Total plague deaths to date		15,735	15,249	
Same date last year		155	121	232
Total mortality same date 1896				88

a One from Satara by Railway.
b One from Satara.

CHOLERA.

Attack	1
Deaths	0

The total of 348 deaths exceeds by 4 the maximum mortality attained during the epidemic last year. On January 15th, 1897, the total was 344, and on the following day 335; the next highest figure being on January 30th, when 307 deaths were registered. At that time the population of Bombay was quite three lakhs less than now.

TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS AT KATHIAWAR PORTS.

The following notification has been issued by the Kathiawar Political Agent, dated Rajkote, 7th February, 1898:—"It is notified for general information that at the ports of Mahuva, Mangrol, and Jafrabad none but residents at those towns or villages in the immediate neighbourhood will be allowed to land from the steamers touching them. Passengers for the interior of Kathiawar must land at the other ports.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

From the reports submitted by the medical officers of the various districts to the Plague Committee, yesterday morning, it appears that in the Colaba District three cases of plague were detected, one from Borah Cross Lane, another from Thomas Street, and the third from the Cotton Green, and removed to hospitals. All the patients were arrivals from different localities in the Native Town. One dead body was examined in Borah Cross Lane, and the cause of death was assigned to plague. In the Fort District eighteen cases occurred, and sixteen houses were evacuated. Out of the eighteen cases three were removed to the Parsee Fever Hospital from Frere Road. The localities responsible for the remaining cases were Meadow Street, Cochin Street, Marutti Street, Cowasji Patel Street, Bazaar Gate Street (one fatal), Pitha Cross Lane, Borah Bazaar Street, Phulton Road, Municipal Chawl, Bhoiwar Lane (one fatal), Frere Road (one fatal), Bomanji Lane (one fatal), and a roadside case. In the Mandvie ward eight plague cases, three cases of suspicious fever, and six deaths were recorded. In C ward (south), Market section showed fifteen cases and fifteen deaths; Dhobie Talao section nineteen cases and sixteen deaths; and Fanaswady section thirteen cases and eight deaths. Ten contacts were removed to the Wari Bunder Camp. In the same ward (north) five cases and four deaths were recorded in the Kumbawarda section, four cases and one death in the Khara Talao section, and two cases and six deaths in the Bhuleshwar section. Seven contacts were despatched to the Wari Bunder Camp. In D ward (east) thirteen plague cases were detected, and removed to different hospitals, and twenty contacts were sent to Wari Bunder Camp. In the same ward (west) one death from plague was recorded in the Gamdavie section. In E ward (east) six plague deaths were registered and ten cases were removed to hospitals. Twelve contacts were sent to the Wari Bunder Camp. The Kamatipura and Tardeo sections showed five cases and seven deaths from plague. In the Nagpada section two cases of suspicious fever were detected, and sent to hospitals, and three contacts sent to the camp. In the Parel and Mahim wards three cases were detected and sent to different hospitals, and one death from plague was recorded.

INOCULATION.

The number of persons inoculated with Prof. Haffkine's prophylactic lymph in the Khosro Lodge Bungalow, Nesbit Lane, yesterday, was:—Khojas 129, and other nationalities 5. Total to date:—Khojas 4,683, and other nationalities 1,164;—grand total 5,847.

SEGREGATION CAMPS.

There were, yesterday, 695 persons detained in the Modikhana Camp, and 487 as contacts in the Wari Bunder Camp.

INFLUX AND EXODUS.

During the twenty-four hours ending 6 a.m., yesterday, the number of persons who left Bombay and entered the city by sea and land was as follows:—Arrivals by sea 825, and by land through Mahim and Sion Causeways 2,218, making a total of 3,043 persons. Departures by sea 1,094, and by land through Mahim and Sion causeways 2,227, making a total of 3,321 persons.

THE "Mailed Fist" arrived at Colombo on Monday. Last week, according to the local paper, the landing jetty at Colombo was beginning to look gay and festive with the decorations which were proceeding briskly. Tender cocoanut leaves woven with fernery, "badalvanasse and pamba" adorn the pillars and sides of the jetty, while alternate lengths of white and red cloth hid the ceiling. A beautiful arch was in course of erection outside to bear an appropriate inscription of welcome to the Prince. Another inscription was to be set facing the sea. The decorations were to be completed by Saturday. At the Cinnamon Gardens, another set of arches and pandals were rising in front of Mr. Ph. Freudenberg's residence.

THE STRIKE OF THE BRITISH INDIA S. N. COMPANY'S OFFICERS.

THE officers of the British India steamers have strictly adhered to their intention of keeping on the strike unless the company settles their grievances. The steamer Kapurthala, which came on Tuesday, discharged her cargo at the company's wharf at the Victoria Dock, and left for her moorings in the stream. Arrangements were made with Messrs. Shepherd and Co. to despatch their steamer Mahanadi with the Persian Gulf mails, but as the vessel does not possess the certified officers required by the Act, the Shipping Master refused to grant permission. Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co., the agents, were able to secure the services of only one officer, who was busily engaged in working out the steamer Kapurthala in company of Captain Rothwell. Also several steamers in the harbour were being worked, as usual, by tally clerks, under the supervision of their respective commanders. The local agents having chartered several of Messrs. Shepherd and Co.'s steamers, have asked several commanders of different vessels to serve as temporary officers, and many of them have gladly responded to the call. The steamer Chanda obtained port-clearance yesterday, and sails to-day for the Persian Gulf and Karachi with mails and general cargo and many passengers on board. The vessel is in command of Captain C. R. Kenddall, and Captain T. J Grier, of s. s. Simla, and Captain F. W. Fry, of s. s. Merkara, as 1st and 2nd officers, respectively, and Mr. West as third officer, having been engaged on Tuesday. The steamer Dumra, which leaves Karachi to-day is under command of Captain E. C. Russell; Captain T. M. Whitehead, of s. s. Khandalla, serving as chief officer, and Captain S. Boon, of s. s. Kerbella. as second officer. The Dumra brings the English mails.

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

THE weekly meeting of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Corporation was held, yesterday afternoon, at the Council Hall, the Hon'ble Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna presiding. The following members were also present:—Messrs. T. W. Cuffe, H. G. Geil, Ibrahim Rahimtulla, Kaikshro Nowroosji Kabaraji, Prof. O. V. Muller, the Hon'ble Mr. Fazulbhoy Visram, Drs. A. G. Viegas, Cowasji Hormusji, Nanabhoy N. Katrak, and K. N. Bahadurji.

LEVY OF HALALKHOR TAX FROM THE MILLS.

The Committee considered letter, dated 27th ultimo, reporting, with reference to the Committee's Resolution of the 29th July 1896, regarding the levy of a special halalkhor rate for service rendered to the various mills in Bombay.

Dr. Cowasji Hormusji inquired what would be the financial results of the new arrangement?

The Commissioner stated that he was not in a position to give any exact figure.

Dr. Cowasji remarked that a financial statement ought to be submitted to the Committee.

Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtulla agreed with the last speaker, and observed it was necessary for them to know whether they would lose anything at all by the new arrangement.

Mr. Brunton, Assessor and Collector, who was present, said that he did not know the exact amount by which they would be affected. By the new arrangement one rupee per head per annum would be charged, which would certainly increase the municipal revenue. At present there were only four or five mills which were connected with latrines.

Dr. Viegas wanted to know whether under the Municipal Act they could make any rebate with retrospective effect, as the arrangement with regard to the water privies was of a retrospective character. They also ought to know to how many years the rebate would extend.

Prof. Muller said that it was likely that the question raised by Dr. Viegas would arise in the case of several other institutions, such as hotels, clubs, and houses, and therefore they would do well to consult their legal advisers in the matter before coming to a final decision.

It was eventually resolved to refer the matter to the Commissioner for obtaining the opinion of the Municipal solicitors as regarded the legal point raised by Dr. Viegas, and for submitting a report on the financial position of the new scheme.

AN APPEAL BY CERTAIN CONTRACTORS.

The Committee considered letter to the Chairman, dated 7th instant, from Messrs. Littlewood and Palonjee, appealing against the resolution passed by the Committee on the 28th October 1897, to the effect "that in future no tender from the contractors should be accepted."

Dr. Viegas asked whether the Commissioner had inquired into the petition.

The Commissioner said that he had not seen the petition.

It was then resolved to refer the petition to the Commissioner for favour of remarks.

The Committee, after transacting other business, adjourned.

ABUSING AND ASSAULTING TRAMWAY SERVANTS.

YESTERDAY, at the Esplanade Police Court, before Mr. J. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. A. Fernandez was charged with assaulting Ahmed Khan Mahomed Khan, a tramway starter, on the 30th December last. Mr. De Souza appeared for the Tramway Company, and the accused conducted his own defence.

Mr. De Souza, in opening the case, read a long correspondence which had passed between the company and the accused. It appeared that the accused had written the first letter to Mr. Ansell, the Superintendent of the company, in which he complained about the insolent and violent conduct of the starter. To this he received a reply to the effect that after due investigation they found that the accused was the aggressor, and that he should compensate the starter by paying him two rupees. The accused declined to comply with this offer, and charged the company with holding *ex parte* inquiries and always taking the side of their servants whenever they came into conflict with the travelling public. At the eleventh hour, Mr. De Souza remarked, the accused sent the two rupees demanded by the company as compensation to the starter, but the managing director of the company intimated to him that he would agree to withdraw the proceedings on condition that he would pay counsel's fees incurred by the company.

The case for the prosecution was that on the evening of the 30th December last, accused entered a car in Hornby Row, and on the car arriving at the Bori Bunder crossing the accused paid one anna and a-half for a ticket to Jacob's Circle. The complainant ordered the conductor to charge him two annas, as he had got into the car along Hornby Row. This the accused refused to do, and an altercation took place between him and the complainant. The complainant alleged that the accused abused him and hit him a blow on the head with a stick.

The accused in his defence stated that he had given two annas to the conductor and two pice were returned to him. The complainant then shouted out to the conductor to charge him two pice more. This annoyed him a great deal and he raised his stick with the intention of striking him. He aimed only one blow, but it did not touch the complainant. The complainant, on the contrary, struck him (accused) a blow on his shoulder, for which he complained to Inspector Power at the police station. There were two European gentlemen in the car at the time, whom the company had not called as witness, though they claimed to have made a thorough investigation in the matter. The accused denied having written the letter with which two rupees were alleged to have been sent by him.

Mr. De Souza stated that the letter in question was written by one Mr. David Solomon on behalf of the accused.

The accused said that he had not authorised Mr. Solomon to do so. He further stated that the assault on him was witnessed by a little girl, named Mabel Evans.

The case stands adjourned for further inquiry.

Mr. Almeida was then charged with using abusing language to a tramway inspector, named Visnu Bhagwan. Mr. De Souza, pleader, prosecuted. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge. He stated in his defence that the complainant demanded to see his ticket in an insolent manner, which provoked him to tell him to go to the devil. Mr. De Souza remarked that the accused had given a great deal of trouble. He refused to show his ticket, and when his address was demanded he gave them wrong. There were people who behaved in a lordly manner when travelling by tram, and defied the servants of the company. The accused was fined Rs. 5.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Strachey presided at a sitting of the Court, yesterday.

RE FAZUL NOOR MAHOMED.

Mr. Manker, for the insolvent, moved absolute the rule granted on Wednesday last calling upon the creditors to show cause why the insolvent should not be allowed to withdraw his petition. As none of the creditors appeared to show cause, his lordship made the rule absolute.

RE GOPAL MEGHOO.

Mr. D. M. Colah, for the insolvent, applied for and obtained the usual interim order.

RE DAYABHOY PREMJEE.

Mr. Manker, for the insolvent, applied for the usual interim order. There was no opposition, and his lordship granted Mr. Manker's application.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE annual meeting of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce was held last evening in Graham's building, the Hon'ble Mr. Abercrombie in the chair. There were present:—Messrs. Reginald Gilbert (Messrs. Payne, Gilbert, and Sayani); F. C. Rimington (Bombay Tramway Co., Ltd.); F. W. Bicknel (Messrs. Volkart Brothers); S. Abraham and R. H. Isaacs (Messrs. E. D. Sassoon and Co.); C. H. J. Rustomjee (Messrs. H. J. Rustomjee and Co.); John M. Heyn (Messrs. John M. Heyn and Co.); F. A. Reddie, H. E. F. Procter, and T. W. Biskett); Messrs. Killick, Nixon and Co.); C. G. Giro (Messrs. Ralli Brothers); Sir George Cotton (Messrs. Greaves, Cotton and Co.); R. H. Macaulay and H. C. Wright (Wallace and Co.); M. Ostermayer (Messrs. M. Ostermayer and Co.); William Murray (Messrs. William Murray and Co.); N. S. Glasebrook, C. H. Armstrong, and E. Comber (Messrs. Lyon and Co.); F. J. Parrott (Vacuum Oil Company); J. K. Moir (Mercantile Bank of India Ltd.); C. Beresford (Commercial Bank of India Ltd.); S. Cornford (Standard Oil Co., of New York); J. Tintner (Messrs. A. Blascheck and Co.); Major H. D. Oliver R.E. (B. B. and C. I. Railway); C. Schoen (Messrs. Gaddum and Co.); C. Vernon (Farbenfabruker Bayer and Co., Ltd.); J. W. Brown and Edwin Yeo (Messrs. C. Macdonald and Co.); Sassoon J. David (Messrs. Sassoon J David and Co.); G. K. Henrichs (Messrs. Glade and Co.); C. B. Lynch, (Messrs. Craigie, Lynch, and Owen); A. F. Simpson (Imperial Bank of Persia); H. Holmes (Messrs. Latham, Abercrombie and Co.); H. F. Wagstaff (South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company of New Zealand); WilliamGreaves and J. Rome (Messrs. Ewart Latham and Co.); J. A. Shepherd (Messrs. Shepherd and Co.); H Chalmers (National Bank of India Ltd.); Vizbheokandas (Messrs. Atmaram & Co.,; T. Sharples (Messrs. Ker, Tarruck and Co.); B. Nicholson and F. M. Flower (Messrs. Edward Bates & Co.); E. Seymour Hale (Publishers Association, London); J. L. Symons and J. Fairclough; (Messrs. Finlay, Muir & Co); S. M. Moses (Messrs. David Sassoon & Co.); F. C. Macrae and Leighton B. Ker (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart & Co.); J. M. Shields (P. & O S. N. Co.); G. Prier de Saone and H. Stauber (Messrs. Prier de Saone & Co.); J. Humphrey (Messrs. Latham & Co.); C. H. B. Forbes (Messrs. C. H. B. Forbes and Co.; F. Graham and J. M. Dick (Messrs. W. A. Graham & Co.); and Mr. John Marshall, Secretary.

Mr. Marshall, the Secretary, having read the notice convening the meeting, the report was taken as read.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The Hon. Mr. A. Abercrombie, the Chairman, said:—It is customary in submitting the adoption of the report for the Chairman to make some remarks about the work the Committee have done; but on this occasion the report is so long and deals with such a variety of subjects that I am afraid it would be difficult in the short time at our disposal this afternoon. The report has, as you are aware, been drawn up with his usual ability by our well-known

city, the overcrowding, the poverty, and habits of the people, their objections to hospitals, segregation and observation camps, their mistaken notions as to the good services which it is desired to render them, all militate most fearfully against a body like our Plague Committee, but whether their energies are being expended altogether in a right direction is a point which it is difficult to satisfy oneself upon, and one which in the present doubt which appears to surround the knowledge of the disease, we can hardly find an answer for. Day-to-day experience is nearly all we can go upon and the recent severe recrudescence appears to point out that in Bombay, where the drastic measures of turning people bodily out of their houses, employed so successfully up-country, cannot be undertaken, the other remedies, such as quarantine and partial segregation, are not effective. But whilst putting forward these doubts, I am not one of those who look slightingly on what the Plague Committee have done for us. Before they had been in operation a week, it was seen what energy and organising power General Gatacre and those who worked with him possessed. Hospitals sprang up like magic, and the then serious resistance to the enforcement of segregation—which had been, no doubt, emboldened by fear—quickly gave way to the gentle yet determined attitude of the new committee. The work which commenced under the General is now being carried on as determinedly and untiringly by Sir James Campbell and the same Committee, and whether we are quite satisfied or not with the direction in which that work is being done we must express our sincere appreciation of the unsparing individual devotion which has actuated those who have struggled so manfully and so long against such fearful odds. Upon one point I could have wished different treatment, and that is on the subject of inoculation. The Plague Committee accept it, it is true, but take no steps to encourage it; they have, in fact, said that it is no part of their business. But there does appear to be undoubted and growing evidence that Prof. Haffkine's prophylactic serum is efficient, and I think our Municipal Commissioner and others have done good work in endeavouring to persuade the people to accept it. I wish some plan could be evolved whereby those who undergo it could be saved some of the annoyances of the present situation. Whilst the Plague Committee have been working we have had a sort of sister service for harbour inspection of inward and outward vessels under the leadership, first of Dr. McCartie, and now Dr. Crimmin. The extreme care with which the examination of passengers and crews has been conducted has effectually prevented any contaminated persons getting through to Europe, and this excellent work has no doubt saved our port from serious quarantine or even prohibitory regulations which at first Continental nations seemed quite ready to impose. Whilst the question of the present has been, no doubt, most prominently before the Government, the future has not been forgotten, and so far back as February last his Excellency, in receiving us in deputation, referred to the necessity for the demolition of bad buildings, the opening out of lungs for the city, etc., and we have lately been made aware that these words were meant to be literally fulfilled.

THE CITY IMPROVEMENT BILL.

The Legislative Council have now coming before them the Bill, called "The City of Bombay Improvement Bill," the object and intention of which have already been outlined in a letter from Government to the President of the Municipal Corporation. Your committee were asked to express themselves upon this letter, and in reply we gave our cordial approval of the scheme. The Bill itself has just been considered by a special committee who will report to you, but I am sure I am expressing a very general opinion in saying that it is a Bill framed to meet a most urgent need in our city, and we must also feel grateful to our Government for coming forward in such liberal fashion to help us to help ourselves. No doubt, in a Bill of such scope and detail objections will be found, but its main features are unmistakably beneficial, and I hope it will quickly and successfully pass the ordeals of the Council, and be the commencement of improvements bringing with them better and healthier times for our city and a lasting honour to the name of Lord Sandhurst. No important communications with the Port Trust have taken place, but our members watch with interest all the improvements that are going on on the foreshore, and continue to appreciate the courteous manner with which all communications and suggestions of members are received by the Trust. The proposed Railway along the foreshore from Sion to Ballard Road has not again come before the Chamber, but it is being kept in sight by the chairman of the Trust, and I think the feeling has gained ground that in the interests of trade and that large and increasingly valuable property controlled by the Trust it should be constructed. Perhaps the most interesting work lately performed by the executive of the Trust has been the filling in of the foreshore to the north of Mazagon. Many of us have driven by the old road to Sewree which passed by slimy creeks and mangrove swamps. Now all this shore is reclaimed and filled in with sweet earth offering excellent building sites and only awaiting the railway bringing with it all the conveniences of expeditious passenger transport and helping it is to be hoped, to relieve the congested Native Town of its inhabitants by housing them in quarters which will be free, open and healthy, and owing to the railway nearly as convenient for business purposes. Amongst the members of our Chamber who have minuted in favor of the Railway, I find two names of Messrs. Uloth, Moses, Forrest, Currie, V. Atmaram, Beaufort, and Macdonell, signed our letter to the Trust reporting on the scheme in 1895. This letter states that most members of the Chamber who responded to the Committee's request for opinions replied in favor, but the letter itself certainly did not point to anything like a general approval of the scheme, though it expressly repudiated any idea of discouragement; but a qualified approval in 1895 may turn into something much stronger in 1898, and all who have watched the strides the Port Trust is making towards holding and consolidating the bulk trade of the Port must, I think, be more favourably impressed with the advisability of the Railway than perhaps they were.

EXCHANGE.

The subject of exchange is one to be approached with great diffidence in view of the widely different opinions held by people equally capable of forming judgments. We have lately learnt from Government utterances that further schemes are in contemplation in connection with the currency legislation of 1893, but how they will take shape we are not informed. Meanwhile there is no lack of writers and suggestions, and amongst the most interesting is certainly the scheme propounded by Mr. A. M. Lindsay. His, as well as other similar schemes, is based upon Government buying back rupees and giving gold in exchange. Now, when the Government undertook their legislation of 1893 they had a great reserve power—they could close the mints—and so great was the belief in the effect that this power would have that we almost touched the 1s. 4d. limit in anticipation; but it soon subsided, and now for the 4½ years that the mints have been closed we have only lately under circumstances of most unusual monetary pressure reached the 1s. 4d. limit with anything approaching to steadiness. Now, what power would Government have behind them to keep with in bounds the rupee-owning public from churning an exchange into gold at Mr. Lindsay's fixed rate of 1-3 3-4 per rupee? As far as I can see only the power of borrowing to keep clear of what I think Mr. Lindsay rightly calls "apprehension point," plus the value of the automatic working of the scheme which I think is rather an indefinite quantity. Mr. Lindsay says in his memo. that Council Bills will be sold weekly to the highest bidder yet they dare not be sold at less than 1-3 3-4, or they would come back the next day into the coffers of Government in exchange for gold, and yet if trade demands are small are they sure to find a market at this fixed minimum of 1-3 3-4. Unless such a scheme is believed in by the European public and attracts capital to India (and home investors would probably hold aloof till they saw some practical evidence of its working) we might in seems to me, be in a chronic state of tight money in India, as it is another essential of the scheme that the so-called redundant coins should and would be removed from circulation by the Government purchases. The scheme may be sound against theoretical argument, but before its success is assured the public will have to accept that our coined rupee worth intrinsically about 10d. is equal to neither more nor less than 1s. 4d. If the public can accept this well and good, if not the onus of demonstrating it and keeping it upwill fall upon Government. But to return to the legislation of 1893. When it is remembered that India is a country with a big gold debt to be paid for by silver money at its exchangeable value with gold, it is evident that, unless some means can be found for giving the rupee something approaching a more stable value than silver alone did for it, those who live in this country must be prepared for heavier taxation. The legislation of 1893 aimed at giving the rupee this stable value, but it has not produced the inflow of gold that was apparently expected by its framers, and now that its grip is beginning to be felt trade suffers from considerable monetary stringency. It is true that there is relief from this at the 1s. 4d. limit, but so far the public mind does not accept this except upon starvation terms.

THE SMOKE NUISANCE.

When so much is being said and thought about the health of the city it is curious that so little notice is apparently taken of the smoke nuisance. Our beautiful Island is fast becoming a smoky manufacturing district, and it is surely undesirable to put it wildly to allow these mills, ever increasing in number, to go on polluting the air to the utmost bent of their pleasure. It certainly cannot add to the salubrity of the city, and I think the matter is sufficiently aggravated for it to be seriously taken up. You will have noticed from the report that we have had during the past year several special committees upon Government Bills on various matters, and I think the best thanks of the Chamber are due to our legal members who render us valuable assistance on these occasions. To the lawyer more than perhaps anyone time is money, and that these gentlemen respond so readily to our invitations to them to act on these special committees is a matter for which we should be grateful. I now come to the accounts, and it will perhaps cause no great amount of surprise that in this all round bad year we do not cover our expenses by about Rs. 4,000. This loss is entirely due to a falling off in our receipts for measurement fees. Last year you sanctioned at this meeting an increase in our charges for publications, but this only took effect from July. The year shows receipts under this head of Rs. 2,000 more than last, and in 1896 it ought to be nearer Rs. 4,000. Our membership is also increasing, and I think we may look forward with a certain amount of hope to covering our expenses this present year. Your committee looked into sundry of our publications with a view to seeing if reductions could be made, but without running the risk of spoiling their usefulness this did not seem feasible.

A VIGOROUS SPEECH.

Mr. Reginald Gilbert next rose and said that he had been long waiting for an opportunity to speak on the subject which had been uppermost in his mind, and he was glad that the opportunity had come to him. Mr. Remington and he had prepared a resolution which he would ask them to vote for. The Government operations had been now directed entirely towards segregation. With segregation here, and segregation there, and segregation everywhere it appeared to him that they had not been able to call in such auxiliary to assist them which they ought to have done. He had had personal experience of segregation, and he would state without hesitation that segregation in Bombay was absolutely and completely impossible. He was free to admit that in small towns and villages such a thing was possible; and that plague could be stamped out by this means; but he emphatically stated that it could not be done in a large city like Bombay. He spoke to some officials at Karachi, which had no doubt got rid of the plague by that method. But it was a town surrounded by deserts with plenty of spots where segregation camps could be built. It was a smaller town, and they must know that Karachi was not Bombay, which was surrounded on three sides by sea. The plague returns of that day showed the total mortality of 348. He took the average mortality at 300. Now, they knew that the houses in Bombay contained sometimes from 700 to 1,000 people. But even if they took an average of 100 people only in one house the number of people in two hundred houses would be twenty thousand. How could they possibly segregate twenty thousand people a day? They might take them to the camp the first day. What about the next day, and the day after that, and so on? It was absolutely impossible to do it in Bombay. He did not believe in any effectual segregation in Bombay, and he could speak with the same authority as others qualified to speak did. The segregation camps were sufficient for two thousand people only; was it possible that they could properly segregate so many people in the camps capable of holding two thousand persons only? Certainly, in his opinion a bastard form of segregation was adopted only. They took out all the persons from the affected houses and carried only two or three to the camps, leaving others to wander about and spread the disease. From some houses, which were closed owing to plague very bad indeed, the people were taken out and allowed to go anywhere wherever they liked to go. So as he had said before segregation in Bombay was absolutely impossible. What did the Plague Committee do in order to give some auxiliary help? They ought to appeal to science. The Government of India sent down Professor Haffkine here in September 1896 especially for the purpose. Here was a trained expert. Nobody knew anything about the plague for which he was sent and he found the remedy for it. One fault of Professor Haffkine was that he was too modest like all men of science. He did not assert himself. He came as a stranger and he had found out the remedy. His opinion was that inoculation work in conjunction with the Plague Committee would stamp out the disease. It was almost impossible to expect that the whole of Bombay would be inoculated in one month.

THE BEST REMEDY.

He did not expect indiscriminate inoculation which was of some, use but it was not sufficient; because it presented to them many difficulties. But inoculation adopted under discipline would be used for the purpose of stamping out the disease most effectually. After a plague case had been reported, the first man who ought to be on the scene was an inoculator and an inspector. A cordon should be put round the house, and nobody should be allowed to leave the house until he was inoculated. He was not in favour of compulsory inoculation. It was quite unnecessary, because the people could well understand the benefit of inoculation and they would submit to it readily if an inducement was offered them in the shape of exemption from segregation. They knew how anxious they were not to go to the hospital. If inoculation was adopted under discipline then it would be safe to leave them in the houses. There would be no further risk in the house if all the persons in the house were inoculated. The patient might suffer, but they must consider the things from a utilitarian view. In November last there were a few cases of plague. It would have been very easy to stamp out the plague then by means of inoculation. If they had put a cordon round the houses and inoculated the persons, the plague would have been stamped out. To-day a much greater difficulty was presented. They knew that the epidemic would pass away as it did last year, having only a few cases. But so long as there remained one it might again burst out after the monsoon. They must, get the disease out of the place. If they did not get it out it would become endemic. Every possible help should be rendered in their aid in dealing with the plague. In order to find out and satisfy himself as to any difficulties with regard to inoculation, he and Mr. Remington waited on Professor Haffkine. He thought it better to go to the fountain head. They spent a lot of their time with Professor Haffkine for two or three days and it removed from their minds any uncertainty as to whether the work could be done in conjunction with the Plague Committee.

THE PROOF OF PROTECTION.

In the first place he must start by showing to them what proof there was in favour of inoculation. Professor Haffkine came here in September 1896 and his first experience was with rats. He took twenty English rats from English ships. Of these twenty, he inoculated ten by means of his prophylactic serum. After a time he introduced the plague germs into the whole of these twenty rats. Now the whole of the ten rats who were not inoculated died on one day. Of those all lived, except one. That was a very good proof to start with. But rats were not human being, and when the plague broke out in the Byculla Jail in January 1897 Professor Haffkine was called in to aid, and he inoculated 148 persons. One hundred and seventy-three were not inoculated. Of the latter twelve got the disease and six of them died. Of those who were inoculated two were attacked and both recovered. Now, that was the first experiment on human beings. Last year 3,200 people were inoculated indiscriminately. Of these 18 got the disease and 16 of them recovered. In Mowra 429 out of one thousand people were inoculated. Seven of the inoculated persons got the plague, but they were persons who were not inoculated 26 were attacked and twenty-four died. The next experiment was at Lanowlee. There the plague broke out in the monsoon. Professor Haffkine was desirous of going there, and he communicated his intention to the officials. The reply was that nobody would be inoculated and it was utterly useless to go there. But this did not deter Professor Haffkine, who proceeded to Lanowlee, and the first thing he did was to take a census of the population. There were 700 people, of whom 323 were inoculated, while 377 were not so protected. Amongst the inoculated there were 14 cases and 7 deaths, while amongst the non-inoculated 73 contracted the disease and 58 of them succumbed to it. The next place he went to was Kirkee. He went amongst people employed in the Artillery Barracks. There were 1,513 individuals. Six hundred and thirty of them were inoculated. Amongst the inoculated there were 37 cases and 17 deaths, while amongst the non-inoculated there were one hundred and thirty cases. When the plague raged at Poona, Professor Haffkine was very anxious to inoculate the people. His Highnes Aga Khan offered the Government Rs. 300 per month, but his generous offer was not accepted by Government until the plague was nearly over. A few people were inoculated at Poona. He (Mr. Gilbert) had not got the figures. His Highness the Aga Khan had 600 retainers, of whom 450 were inoculated. None of the inoculated got the plague, while amongst the rest twenty-three got the plague and twenty-two died. When plague broke out at Belgaum, an alternative was offered to the people in the shape of inoculation for segregation. The Mairas sepoys regiment with their families were all inoculateds and although he had not the official figures before him, he was in a position to state that the sepoys did not get the plague, except one or two, who were suffering from the disease at the time of the operation. When four or five thousand people were inoculated in this way, the Plague Commissioner went there and ordered the abandonment of the alternative of inoculation for segregation. There was then not the same inducement to the people, and very few, after that came forward to be inoculated. Mr. Gilbert then gave statistics of Omarkary Jail, where plague broke out in January last. These statistics, he said, showed that inoculation was very much effective. It had been given a trial now a year and a quarter and they had had sufficient proofs that it was sufficiently effective. Those figures had never been contradicted, and could never be contradicted. In Damaun, where the plague broke out in May last, 2,197 persons were inoculated, while 3,033 were not inoculated. There were 36 deaths amongst the inoculated, while amongst non-inoculated 1,488 died. This was all in the blue-book issued by Surgeon Major Lyons, who had gone into the figures most carefully. His information was obtained from Professor Haffkine and from the papers shown to him. No officials had attempted to contradict them, and he (Mr. Gilbert) maintained that they were true. Having shown them that inoculation was efficacious, the question arose what should be done.

THE ATTITUDE OF THE PLAGUE COMMITTEE.

He would now show the foolishness of refusing to assist in this beneficient work. He addressed a letter to the Press and the Plague Committee, and the latter favoured him with a resolution, which stated that the Committee were of opinion that it was not a part of their duty to take measures in the direction. He (Mr Gilbert) asked in the name of God then what on earth their duty was? They had to take every possible and useful measures to stamp out the plague. They had spent twenty-one lakhs of rupees and they were not able to spend a few thousand more for inoculation purposes? The Plague Committee further said that this work of inoculation was done by the Municipality. He (Mr. Gilbert) asked whether it was a fact? There was then but one inoculation ward opened at the time due to the careful thought of the Municipality and the liberality of his Highness the Aga Khan. There was one station only at Khoshroo Baugh at the time, and how was it possible, asked Mr. Gilbert, to inoculate the whole of Bombay at one station? It was difficult to conceive what reasons the Plague Committee had for confirming this resolution. They could only suppose the reasons. It might be that somebody suffered some little illness when he was inoculated and thought there was risk in the process. Was it not dangerous to allow one single opinion to outweigh the opinion of the public and the Press? Another man might say the value of inoculation had yet to be proved and that they must wait for a longer period to pronounce judgment upon its efficacy. He did not think that such transient reasons should be allowed to stand in the way of inoculation. He did not say that they were real reasons. He only suggested them. As he had said before the Press were supporting them, the public were supporting them, and so were their natives. He did not know any native who would resist voluntary inoculation. The Government remained neutral, and he (Mr. Gilbert) further went and said that they remained obstructive. They appeared to be afraid. Why should a strong Government be afraid when people were at their back; and yet all they said was the Municipality could do it—the same Municipality whom they discarded. They (Government) now shirked the responsibility which ought to be on their shoulders. Mr. Gilbert liked a brave Government. The Government must assist them in stamping out the plague, but they remained neutral, and occupied what he called a cowardly position. Caste did not come in the way. Even the Brahmins of the highes caste were inoculated. There was no question that Mahomedans also had introduced it. He was now going to introduce to them a resolution which was in very mild form and which he thought would encourage Government, and if they were afraid, let them put them on their back and encourage them to do something. They all know what the Plague Committee had done? They had put on quarantine, they maintained quarantine up to the beginning of the month, when it was utterly useless. They ought to have done it in November last. All the money was utterly thrown away. It was only during the last two or three days that people were prevented from running down to the coast. There was an ominous incident on Sunday last. It was reported to the papers that the carriage of the Plague Committee was overturned. It was good sport on that; they might turn over a leaf and take something which would alter their mind which might induce them to avail of something more than their pet policy. Their work of sending to the segregation camp was utterly useless. If they employed brooms to sweep out the Back Bay themselves they must be doing just as good as they did now. They had spent lakhs upon the Secretariat of the Plague Committee who went out with the Siddee Queen and visited the market section and found out all the people who had been plague-stricken. (Laughter.) He did not object to their reports in newspapers, but it was objectionable, because it made people believe that everything had been done. He made the people here, the Viceroy, and people in England to believe that everything was done, whilst the primary steps were not taken, viz., the encouragement of inoculation.

THE MODUS OPERANDI.

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Mr. F. C. Remington said: I have great pleasure in seconding Mr. Gilbert's resolution. Gentlemen, I have always been a believer in the necessity of the repressive measures against the plague, which the Plague Committee has endeavoured to carry out. It has seemed to me that measures so almost unanimously advocated by the medical profession, and which were so conspicuously successful in their application at Karachi, must be right in principle. But we all know that circumstances alter cases, and that what is possible under one set of conditions may not be, and often is not, possible under another and a totally different set of conditions. I still believe that the measures of the Plague Committee have saved a great number of lives. But we must, I fear, all reluctantly admit that all their efforts have proved powerless to prevent a most disastrous recrudescence of the plague in Bombay. I do not think the blame for this lies with the Plague Committee. I think the cause of the failure is due to the immense area and enormous population of this city, and to the inveterate opposition of the people to segregation, resulting in the concealment of cases to an extent which makes the control and still more the eradication of the disease by measures of segregation practically impossible. Well, gentlemen, this being so, we are thrown back upon the enquiry what other measures are possible. I personally am of opinion that most important of all is a radical reform of the existing insanitariness of this city. I think that until we get rid of its present water-logged condition, and until it is adequately sewered and drained, we shall never have a healthy population, and never be free from the imminent danger of recurring epidemics. Such measures must, however, take time, and if the rate of progress in the past is to be any indication of the progress in the future, they are likely unfortunately to take a very long time. I do think that Government should encourage and offer every facility to the people to resort to inoculation, and that with that end in view Government should ask the Plague Committee to exempt from segregation or detention persons who can produce certificates of having been inoculated within an antecedent period of four months. In conclusion, gentlemen, on which I have thought so much of late, and I have taken a very strong view. I have lived in this city for the best years of my life. I have spoken seriously to the same effect that I have spoken here to-day and I have heard many others speaking in stronger language. It is possible that I may have used language which is rather too strong; if I have done so I deplore it. But I think there is an opinion that a man has a painful public duty to discharge and as a man I do not shrink from it. If you think that I have been unjust and said more than necessary, you will please bear it in mind that I have done it from duty and with no malicious motive. (Loud applause.)

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the Committee considered, performed their onerous duties under exceptional difficulties with the greatest ability and willingness, and that during a period when, like the first four months of the year, an epidemic of exceptional virulence prevailed, those interested in the shipping trade of the Port were quite prepared to submit to a certain amount of inconvenience and delay in the despatch of their steamers, which they recognised as inevitable under the circumstances. The Committee, however, pointed out that it would be a decided hardship on the trade of the port to maintain the regulations referred to during anything approximating to a normal state of things, and that in cases where steamers had completed loading late on Saturday night and were ready to go to sea the first tide on Sunday morning, a delay of twenty-four hours was a serious charge which, they submitted, steamers should not be subjected to. In the reply received, it was stated that the question of strengthening the inspection staff would receive attention, although there was an unusually great strain on the medical establishments at the disposal of Government, but that Government would be glad to receive any suggestions which the Chamber would desire to offer as to the general instructions by which, according to the notification under reference, the Health Officer of the Port was to be guided in the exercise of his discretion. In addressing Government again on the subject, the Committee pointed out that the purport of their first communication was to solicit the cancelment of the orders previously issued, and not to suggest any restrictions or modifications in the manner in which the Health Officer should give them effect. Maintaining again, that, for the reasons already advanced, the inspection of vessels on Sundays should not be left to the option of the Health Officer of the Port, the Committee pointed out that the refusal to inspect vessels and permit them to go to sea on Sundays was not only, a serious monetary charge on shipping, but had the effect of disorganising the sailings of regular liners, and was in many ways objectionable and obstructive to trade, the only reason assigned for which was the deprivation of the inspecting officers' day of rest. The Committee held that many medical officers in other appointments had to perform Sunday duty, but granting that the work of the Health Officers of the Port was of an exceptionally arduous character, and that they were fully entitled to be absolved from Sunday work, they ventured to suggest that it would surely be possible by administrative arrangement to admit of this relief.

ANIMAL PESTS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES AFFECTING LIVE-STOCK.

In connection with the proposed amendment of the Indian Ports Act the Government of India gave consideration during the year to the necessity of legislative measures to prevent the introduction into India of animal pests and contagious diseases affecting live-stock the subject having been brought prominently to their notice in connection with the importation of some horses from Australia infected with the tick-pest. A darft of the provisions which were considered necessary and sufficient for the purpose was received by the Chamber from the Bombay Government for opinion, and the matter having received due consideration, the Committee informed Government that it met with their approval. At the same time they suggested that shipments of imported horses from any country where any equine, cont gious or parasitic diseases is known or suspected to be prevalent should be inspected on board by the Inspector of Live-stock, and any detected cases dealt with, before being landed. The Committee also expressed the opinion that provision should be made for the periodical inspection by a Government Veterinary Officer—say at least monthly—of the stables where imported horses were kept for sale, as enquiries made by them showed that cases of contagious or infectious equine diseases were often concealed—possibly through ignorance of their real nature—at these stables for a considerable time, and it was only when the disease had spread that steps were taken to extirpate it.

DAY OF DEPARTURE OF THE HOMEWARD MAIL STEAMERS.

This question came prominently before the Committee during the year, and owing to its importance and the desire to reconcile the interests involved in other parts of India with a suitable departure from Bombay, it was eventually decided to summon a general meeting of members to ascertain their views on the subject.

Having detailed the correspondence on the subject, the report proceeds:—At a largely attended general meeting of the members of the Chamber held on 18th August, to consider the question, it was resolved that "this Chamber strongly protests against any alteration being made in the hour of departure of the homeward mail steamer from Bombay, namely 2 p.m. on Saturday as fixed by Government, and notified to the Chamber by the Director-General of the Post Office of India in his letter, dated 7th August 1897." This decision was communicated to the Bombay Government, with the intimation that the feeling of the mercantile community generally was strongly opposed to the mail steamer leaving Bombay after 2 o'clock on Saturday, and that the objections raised in 1889 against any such force to a departure later than the hour named. Copies of the resolution were also forwarded to the Director-General of the Post Office of India, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and to the Governor of Bombay. In addressing his Excellency, the Committee solicited his support to prevent a later departure of the mail steamer from Bombay than 2 p.m. on Saturday as being most prejudicial to the interests of the Bombay public. At a later stage the Chamber was informed that Government had sanctioned the use of a weekly special train to carry the foreign mails from Allahabad to Bombay, thus leaving the present hour of the departure of the mail train from Howrah unchanged, and at the same time allowing of a 2 p.m. departure of the mail steamer from Bombay on Saturday. The new contract with the P. & O. S. N. Company was signed on 25th May, 1897; it comes into operation on 1st February 1898 and continues until 31st January 1905. The Company agree to a speed between Brindisi and Bombay of 14·5 knots per hour as against 12·54 under the existing arrangement, and that the time occupied in the transit of mails between London and Bombay shall be 14 days and 16 hours against 16 days and 12 hours at present.

The work of the Chamber in obtaining the acceleration of mail trains between the Presidency cities, since July 1st last, is also detailed.

LANDING OF PASSENGERS FROM THE ENGLISH MAIL STEAMERS.

The Committee are glad to say that their re- on to the Port Trust—referred to in last presentat- ort—calling attention to the inadequate year's rep- ion at the Ballard Pier in connection accommodat- ers arriving by the English mail with passeng- ecuted in the present sheds being steamers, has re-arranged so as to considerably extended and covered area, a waiting-room increase the tot being at the same time provided with conveniences at end of the pier. Even with this extension, however, the space available for the arrangement of passeng- steamers arrive in the sufficient when the large mai accomodation will have cold weather, and additions nds of complaint are to be provided before all gro Company who were removed. The P. & O. S. N. so in the main given addressed at the same time, have a regard to people effect to the Chamber's suggestions and a notification, dated 4th October 1897, issued by the Company, boarding the mail steamers on arrival, d, while no now prohibits persons going on boa Company launches or boats except those of the P. & passengers are allowed alongside the steamer until the have left.

RAILWAY RATES.

The question of railway rates in India, particularly over the lines connected with the trade of this p has received the special attention of the Committee during the year. Soon after they took office, they addressed the authorities of the G. I. P. Railway Company with regard to the rates charged for the carriage of goods to up-country stations, more especially in the case of piece-goods and cotton yarn. It seemed to the Committee that from Cawnpore in the north right through the Central Provinces to Raichore in the south, merchants in Bombay had to rely upon the G. I. P. for the conveyance of their goods up-country, and that unless the Company could offer rates of transport on a parity with those ruling to other ports, it was impossible for the trade of Bombay to sustain the competition. Replying to the Chamber on the 4th May, the Agent of the G. I. P. Railway stated that while he did not consider the charges to Nagpore adversely affected Bombay, it had been decided to make a reduction in the rate to that centre, and for the two large piece-goods markets—Kamptee and Tamsar Road—to the same charge as previously existed via Allahabad. As to Jubulpore, the Agent feared that any lowering of the charges to this point would be followed by similar action on the part of the East Indian Railway authorities. With respect to Cawnpore, it was stated that the charges by the G. I. P. and Indian Midland lines were based on the same rates per ton mile as from Howrah, and that the East Indian had intimated that they were prepared to maintain the same proportionate difference. The Agent added that the East Indian Railway could work at a much lower expenditure than either his company or the Indian Midland, and that as any reduction from this side meant a corresponding lowering of rates from Howrah, it would leave the difference between the two rates in the same position as before. Respecting Hyderabad, the Chamber was informed that the charges for that station would be assimilated with the rates from Madras, and that the new rates would come into force from 1st August 1897. The Agent was at one with the Chamber in desiring a stronger footing in Cawnpore, and promised to give the subject the consideration which its importance demanded. Later on the Chamber received from the General Traffic Manager of the G. I. P. Railway Company a copy of a circular issued by the company under date of 19th June 1897, containing revised rates for various goods over that line. The Committee are still without any definite information about the promised reduction to Cawnpore, but at the time of writing this report they had the assurance of the Agent of the G. I. P. Railway that the matter was not being lost sight of, and that the Chamber would be communicated with as soon as his deliberations had taken practical shape. With respect to the correspondence published in the report for 1896 on the subject of the charges for the conveyance of wheat and seeds from Delhi, Agra, and intermediate stations to Calcutta and Bombay, the Chamber's suggestion that a Railway Commission should be appointed to deal with the matter was submitted to the Government of India by the Bombay Government in September 1896, but up to the time of writing this report no information had reached the Chamber as to what action Government intended taking.

THE NAGDA-BARA-MUTTRA LINE.

The question of railway extension in India is constantly before the Chamber, and whenever opportunity has presented itself the Chamber has lost no time in addressing Government both on behalf of private enterprise and lines of communication contemplated by the State itself. The Nagda-Bara-Muttra project was one which the Chamber gave special prominence to in 1895, and in forwarding its presentation to the Government of India his Excellency the Governor in Council expressed his opinion that the line should be undertaken at an early date. When, therefore, a rumour reached the Committee during the year that it was intended to postpone the construction of this line for an indefinite period, they immediately wrote to the Bombay Government for information on the subject, at the same time soliciting the good offices of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council with the Government of India and Her Majesty's Secretary of State with the view of obtaining a reversal of the decision and sanction for the prosecution of the undertaking at the earliest possible moment. Inviting attention to the Chamber's previous representation on the subject, pointing out the disadvantageous position Bombay occupied in regard to the competion for the trade of the North-West owing to the policy pursued by the East India Railway in penalising by prohibitive rates all traffic passing over their line towards Bombay or vice versa from Bombay to places in the North-West Provinces, the Committee stated that owing to the exceptional character of the past season, and the limited quantity of products awaiting transport, the pressure on the existing lines might not, perhaps, this year attain the intensity of previous seasons; but there was every reason to hope the existing state of affairs would not be long maintained, and that directly average crops came to be dealt with there would be a resumption of the delay and difficulty in dealing with the trade of the North-West towards Bombay which the Chamber had so frequently complained of. Under these circumstances the Committee said they would learn with deep regret that any postponement in the construction of the Nagda-Bara-Muttra line was in contemplation, and that anything his Excellency could do to facilitate the progress of the undertaking would meet with the unfeigned thanks of the mercantile community. Soon after the above representation had gone in, the Chamber received from the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, a copy of a "memorandum on the preparation of the programme of railway extension in India for the year 1896-97, 1897-98 and 1898-99," dated 25th March 1897, and signed by the Hon'ble Mr. A. C. Trevor, from which it was apparent that the report previously alluded to was in substance correct. The Committee felt constrained to again approach Government in the matter, and in a lengthy communication, dated 24th April, pointed out the advantages that would accrue to the trade of this port by the construction of the railways. Calling attention to the distribution of grants in the three years' programme, the Committee pointed out that out of a total forecast of expenditure new lines for the years 1896-97 to 1898-99, amounting to Rs. 20,66,50,000 Bombay's proportion was to be Rs. 79,75,000 no portion of which was to come from Imperial funds. Remarkable as this comparison was, the Committee stated that they would be inclined to attach less importance to it were the Nagda-Bara-Muttra line one which would entail heavy expenditure on the Government of India. This, they understood, was not the case, as some of the Native States through which that railway would run would be prepared, in one form or another to contribute largely to the cost of construction, while the whole of the balance, they believed, could be raised in such a way as to throw no strain on the resources of Government. Having regard to these facts, and, further that the retardation of the Nagda-Bara-Muttra through route would also defer indefinitely the prosecution of several valuable branches which would be constructed by Native States to junctions therewith, the Committee of the Chamber respectfully solicited that his Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council would be pleased to represent to the Government of India the injustice to Bombay of eliminating the Nagda-Bara-Muttra line from the railway programme, and the desirability of restoring it to the prominent position in that programme which the Government of India, after careful consideration, had originally assigned to it. Replying in the course the Government of India informed the Chamber, through the Bombay Government, that the Secretary of State had not in any way expressed disapproval of the project, but had merely decided that it should not be included in the current programme for railway construction extending up to the end of the year 1898-99. Further, that when the time arrived for the preparation of a programme for the period subsequent to that year, the claims of the proposed railway for early construction would receive due consideration equally with those of other projects for the general development of the country which might then have been put forward.

BHUSAWAL-NAGPUR BRANCH.

Towards the end of the year information reached the Committee that the authorities of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company had submitted proposals to the Secretary of State for India with the view of acquiring the Bhusawal-Nagpur Branch of the G. I. P. Railway when the contract between Her Majesty's Government and the latter Company terminated in the year 1900. Private enquiries instituted by the Committee showed that the report was not without foundation, and they therefore promptly protested against the suggested transfer of this branch line. In addressing the Bombay Government on the subject the Committee stated that the Bhusawal-Nagpur branch, constructed and ably worked for many years by the G. I. P. Railway Company, had developed the trade of the fertile and populous districts of Khandesh, the Berars and the Central Provinces until in normal seasons it represented close on a third of the entire goods traffic of the G. I. P. system, and that deprived of any considerable portion of the traffic contributed by the branch, the G. I. P. line would be relegated to a secondary position in which an enormous capital outlay for administrative; maintenance and locomotive purposes, at Bombay and Bhusawal, would be rendered practically worthless, while the heavy charges involved in working and maintaining the ghat sections would fall with increased severity on the traffic derived from other sources. The Committee solicited the good offices of H. E. the Governor in Council with a view to an official protest being lodged in the proper quarter against any proposal for the transfer of this branch line from the present administration.

LUDHIANA-DHURI LINE.

The promoters of the Ahmedabad Prantij and Tapti Valley Railways having applied to Government for a concession to construct a line from Ludhiana to Dhuri, and also for permission to extend it to Hansi on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, solicited the Chamber's support to the scheme. Messrs. Killick, Nixon and Co. stated that the line would pass through a perfectly flat country, the upper portion of which was largely irrigated, while the whole tapped a magnificent grain growing area; further, that it would divert produce from the Ludhiana and Hansi districts to Bombay, which would otherwise go to Karachi by the Southern Punjab Railway. The Committee have promised to give the undertaking the support of the Chamber when they next address Government on the subject of Feeder Lines.

SIRSA-KUCHAMAN ROAD RAILWAY.

This also is a branch feeder line promoted by local private enterprise. It will be 168 miles in length and would reduce the distance from Sirsa to Kuchaman Road by 142 miles, the present distance via Rewari being 330 miles. Not only would it open out direct communication with several large towns between Kuchaman Road and Sirsa, but by thus shortening the distance there is every probability that a large traffic would be attracted from beyond Sirsa in the direction of Fazilka and Ferozpore, which now tends to find an outlet in the direction of Karrachee. The Committee were in favour, if necessary, of supporting the project, but in the meantime information reached them to the effect that the authorities of the B. B. and C. I. Railway had expressed their willingness to work the proposed line as part of the Rajputana-Malwa system, on a basis of 60 on actual working expenses and a moderate charge for use of rolling stock, the arrangement being subject to confirmation by the Jeypore State and the Government of India.

THE BARSI LIGHT RAILWAY CO., LD,

The above line—reference to which is to be found in previous reports of the Chamber—was opened for goods traffic on 1st March and for passenger traffic on 18th idem, on which latter date the working of the line was formally inaugurated. The Resident Engineer and Agent of the company, in communicating this information, took the opportunity of conveying to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce the thanks of every one connected with the railway for the great assistance rendered in connection with this project and its ultimate success.

The currency question and the progress made in respect to exchange during the year are then detailed.

THE CITY OF BOMBAY IMPROVEMENT BILL, 1898.

On 23th September last the Chamber was favoured by the Secretary to Government, General Department, with a copy of a lengthy communication addressed to the President of the Municipal Corporation, with a request that Government might be favoured with the views and suggestions of the Chamber on the scheme sketched out in the communication. The Committee having considered the scheme with all the care and attention which its importance demanded, informed Government that it met with their unanimous approval.

COTTON DUTIES AND TARIFF ACTS.

After the Tariff Act came into operation in 1894 the Government of India decided to make an annual revision of the valuations of articles to which tariff values were assigned in the schedules of the Act. In accordance with this, a general revision was made and embodied in the amendment of the Act passed early in 1895, and enquiries were instituted in December 1895 in view of another general revision. The Chambers of Commerce of Bengal and Bombay were consulted by the local Customs authorities, and it appeared that the then valuations in the tariff did not require modification except in respect of a few articles. It was accordingly decided to limit the revision of the tariff values to the particular cases mentioned. In respect of the Cotton Duties Act, the Government of India, in exercise of the power conferred by section 7, and in supersession of the notification No. 580 G. R., dated 3rd February 1896, was pleased to fix new tariff values for the various descriptions of cotton goods mentioned, and this notification is published in the Appendix. The question of the duty charged on imports of steel or iron hoops also engaged the attention of the Chamber, and in addressing Government on the subject they solicited that such goods should be included in the list of exempted articles. From enquiries made it appeared that steel or iron hoops were used in Bombay for baling packages, which were chiefly re-exported; and as the Government of India had permitted the free importation of hoop steel by the owners of cotton weaving mills, the Committee suggested that the concession should be extended to importers generally. Government, however, were not in a position to comply with the Chamber's request, a reference made to the Supreme Government having elicited the reply that the Governor-General in Council regretted his inability to enter into any proposals at present for general exemptions from import duty.

PROPOSED REVISION OF THE CHINESE CUSTOMS TARIFF.

A memorandum on this subject having been submitted by the Bombay Government to the Chamber for criticism, the Committee gave the matter their most careful consideration, and with the aid of a Special Sub-Committee addressed Government at some length on the subject. Having regard to the treaty recently made between China and Japan, it seemed doubtful whether it was competent for the Chinese Government to propose a revision of the Customs Tariff for goods other than opium, but assuming that the Chinese Government had the power to call for such revision, the Committee of the Chamber—replying to a series of questions embodied in the memorandum—stated first that, in their opinion, the effect of an enhancement of duties would be disadvantageous to trade in all articles exported from India to China.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE INDIAN STAMP ACT.

With the view of repealing and re-enacting in a consolidated form the Stamp Act of 1879, and all the subsequent amendments thereto, and at the same time introducing certain amendments where the working of the stamp law had disclosed defects, a Bill was introduced in the Imperial Legislative Council towards the end of the year, and a copy furnished to the Chamber through the Bombay Government for any criticism it might desire to submit. Following the procedure in similar cases, a Special Committee was appointed to consider the proposed measure, and their report having been approved by the General Committee of the Chamber, Government were addressed on various points below.

INDIAN POST OFFICE BILL, 1897.

Another of the important legislative measures which was introduced into the Governor General's Council in the closing weeks of the year was a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Post Office in India. Having been favoured by the Bombay Government with a copy of the draft Act with a request for the Chamber's opinion thereon, the matter received careful consideration both by the General Committee and a Special Committee appointed to consider and report on its provisions. But from the nature and purport of the proposed measure few criticisms were found necessary. Referring to chapter III, section 14 (a), the Committee suggested that the end of restricting the provisions of this sub-section to the purpose of recovery of postage only, it should be made of general application for all legal purposes; and that the production of the postal article, having there in the official mark of the Post Office denoting that the article had been refused, or that the addressee was dead or could not be found, should be deemed *prima facie* evidence of the fact for all purposes. Referring to chapter IX, section 45, it was suggested that the limit of amount for postal orders should be increased from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 as likely to render this form of remittance much more useful to the public. Invited attention to chapter X, section 69, the Chamber stated that as it was not intended that this section should apply to matter of a domestic nature, the provision should exempt husband and wife in addition to parent or guardian.

LIABILITIES OF SHIPPING COMPANIES UNDER THE COMMON CARRIERS' ACT.

The views of the Chamber having been solicited by the Bombay Government in the matter, the Committee, after taking legal advice on the subject, expressed the opinion that the present limit of two years for instituting claims for compensation under the Act was unreasonable, and they agreed with the suggestion of the Bengal Government that the period of limitation should be restricted to six months, to run from the time when the loss or injury became known to the claimant was a definite one, and therefore formed a much better starting point for compensation than that now existing.

BRANCH REGISTERS OF SHAREHOLDERS OF JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES FORMED IN INDIA.

Representations were made to the Government of India during the year as to the desirability of enacting a law authorising joint-stock companies formed in India with a rupee capital to open and maintain a branch register of shareholders in the United Kingdom, the object of the suggestion being to show all probability investors resident in England would more readily subscribe to a rupee capital for the formation of companies for the construction of railways in India, if a quotation could be had on the London Stock Exchange. The papers having in due course come before the Chamber for an expression of its opinion on the proposal, a Special Committee was appointed to consider the matter, and approving of their recommendations the General Committee addressed Government, stating that while the establishment of such a register in the United Kingdom would be of advantage to large undertakings such as railway companies—a large portion of whose capital might be held in England—they considered it would be the reverse of advantageous in regard to small concerns like cotton mills, most of which were owner-managed. The Committee were accordingly of opinion that however desirable it might be that companies in India should have branch registers in the United Kingdom, the difficulties in the way of giving effect to the proposal were so great, and the question was of such importance, that it was not desirable, in the general interests of the commercial community in India, to pass such a measure at present.

LIGHTING OF THE RED SEA.

The question of the inadequate supply of light-houses in the lower portion of the Red Sea, and the urgent necessity of additional lights originally raised by this Chamber in 1889, was revived again during the year, and having come before the Committee in consequence of a representation addressed by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to the Government, Marine Department, Bombay, supporting the views expressed by the Bengal Chamber. The Chamber's communication was in due course passed on the Government of India strongly supported by his Excellency the Governor in Council. Later in the year the Chamber was favored with a copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State and of its enclosures showing that the subject was receiving the attention of the Home authorities, although nothing definite appears to have been decided upon up to the time—12th August 1897—of the communication from the Foreign Office to the Secretary of State for India explaining the then position of the matter.

BILLS OF LADING.

In August last the President of the General Produce Brokers' Association of London forwarded to the Chamber a copy of a letter, which he had addressed to the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom, calling attention to the unsatisfactory position buyers and sellers of produce were placed in by the signing and dating of bills of lading by ship-owners' agents and capitalists before the goods specified in the bills of lading were actually on board the vessels; and asking for their co-operation with the view of getting the practice discontinued. Attention was also called to the practice of signing three, four or more bills of lading, which, it was pointed out, led to trouble in dealing with shipping documents for produce sold, and suggesting that if only two of such documents were signed it would be sufficient, and that opportunities for fraud would be minimised. The importance of specifying on master's receipts or bills of lading any damage or defective condition that might be apparent in goods received on board was also brought to notice, and the Chamber's assistance was at the same time invited with the view of carrying out the Association's suggestions. The Committee in the first instance circulated the correspondence among members, and subsequently addressing the General Produce Broker's Association stated that they were not aware of the practice of pre-dating and signing bills of lading, but that if it existed at all they agreed with the Association in deprecating it, and that they would act in this spirit. With regard to the practice of signing three or more bills of lading, they stated that they were not aware of any fraud having taken place in consequence of triplicates or more being signed, and asked for further information on this point before advocating the limitation of these documents to two only.

TELEGRAPH CHARGES.

The reduction notified at the end of last year in the charges for telegrams to Japan and the Farther East came into force in July last, and messages from Bombay are now charged Rs. 3-14 per word against the previous tariff of Rs. 7-1. In August last the Committee addressed the Telegraph Department enquiring whether Government contemplated making any reduction in the rates for messages between Bombay and Europe owing to the high rate of exchange which then prevailed. Understanding that the practice had hitherto been to notify alterations in the tariff when there was a material fluctuation, the Committee expressed the hope that as an important rise in exchange had occurred, the usual adjustment in the charges would be made and notified to the public as early as possible. The matter having been referred to the Director-General of Telegraphs, that official informed the Chamber through the authorities in Bombay, that under regulation XXVIII (5) of the International Telegraph Convention of 1896, the rate of collecting the charges was regulated by the average demand rate of exchange (within limits of the nearest half-penny) during the previous three months, and that such changes had to be notified to the International Bureau and circulated to all offices, involving a delay of about 15 days. Changes were therefore made from the first day of a month. Further, that the daily average value of the rupee during the three months ending 15th August 1897, was only 1s. 2 7-8d., while Government were collecting, and had been for some time past at the rate of 1s. 3d.; consequently the time had not at the time of writing arrived for reducing the rupee charges on telegrams to Europe, adding that the matter received constant attention, and that the rates would be reduced as soon as the regulations allowed.

COTTON.

There has been nothing in connection with this staple before the Chamber during the year, the administrative work of the trade having as usual been carried out by the Bombay Cotton Trade Association, Limited; but the figures regarding the extent of the crop and its disposal are embodied in the report for reference. While the crop of 1895-96 was the largest since the record one of 1889-90, that of 1896-97 was smaller than the preceding one, the receipts of the various growths into Bombay showing a decrease on the previous season of 538,000 bales or 25 per cent., and on the average of the preceding ten years of 146,000 bales or 8·3 per cent.

WHEAT.

In last year's report the previous season's crop was noticed as being the worst on record since statistics had been available regarding the cereal, but the season of 1896-97 registers a still lower record. The area sown showed a reduction on the preceding season of 1¾ round figures 4¾ millions of acres, but as compared with the average of the previous five years the decrease was 8¾ millions of acres. The decline in outturn was enormous, being 665,000 tons less than the attenuated yield of the previous season, and 2,080,000 tons or 30 per cent. less than the average of the previous five years. From the detailed figures it is apparent that while as compared with the average of the previous five years, there has been large decrease in every wheat growing district, the comparison with the season of 1896-97, gives very different results. Central India records a decrease of 710,000 tons, Bombay of 172,000, Hyderabad of 69,000, Rajputana and Central Provinces each of 44,000 and Berar of 37,000 tons. That is to say Bombay and the districts tributary thereto show a diminution of 1,076,000 tons, while the Punjab increased its outturn by 119,000 and the North-West Provinces and Oudh by 224,000 tons. With such an enormous decrease in production accompanied as it was by a practical failure throughout large tracts of country of the other cold weather crops of food grains, India naturally ceased to be a wheat exporting country, the only shipments as shown by the following table being 49,000 tons from Karachi, probably enforced shipments to cover forward sales, while Calcutta received 19,707 and Bombay 4,725 tons of American wheat.

ARBITRATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE CHAMBER.

No special arbitrations were dealt with by the Chamber during the year; but ordinary disputes in connection with piece-goods have been numerous and under the rules passed by the Chamber in 1885, 24 cases were submitted to the Committee during 1897 in each of which an umpire was appointed to deal with the matter. The number of similar arbitrations referred to the Chamber in 1896 was 58.

WORKING HOURS AT THE DOCKS.

The attention of the Chamber having been called to a notification issued by the Port Trustees regarding the working hours at the Docks, the Committee addressed the Trust suggesting that the system of keeping the Dock gates closed against labourers until 7-30 a.m., was a considerable hindrance to trade, and that there would be much advantage in admitting the work people earlier so that arrangements could be made for starting active work at 7-30. The Trustees replied that the alteration in the working hours was made as much in the interests of the labourers as the administrative staff, and was forced on the Trustees by the occurrences that disturbed the daily life of the city at the time; adding that it was the wish of the Trustees that the old order of things in the Docks should be reverted to as soon as it was possible, but that if the arrangements on board vessels for loading or unloading cargoes would be in any way advanced by so doing, there was no hindrance to the labourers employed by stevedores being admitted to the Docks before 7-30 a.m., as the main gates were always open, and the Docks staff and labourers were in readiness to start work at 7-30 punctually.

THE QUEEN'S COMMEMORATION.

On the 21st June 1897, the Committee, through the official channel, despatched a congratulatory telegram to her Majesty the Queen-Empress to the following effect:—"Bombay Chamber of Commerce are deeply sensible of all the benefits derived during her Majesty's long and glorious reign, and beg to offer heartfelt congratulations on this auspicious occasion." The message was in due course acknowledged by the Government of India, through the Bombay Government at the same time conveying to the members of the Chamber her Majesty's gracious appreciation of the sentiments conveyed in the telegram.

ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS.

The following firms and companies were elected during the year, the total number of members on 31st December 1897, being 78 as compared with 75 at the end of the previous year:—The Bombay Tramway Company, Ltd., Messrs. Farbenfabriken Bayer & Co., Ltd., Messrs. Mulji Jaitha & Co.; Edward Seymour Hale, Esq., Advocate, and Representative of the Publishers, Association, London. The Indian Cotton Seed Product Co., Ltd., resigned membership during the year.

The Committee have now only to render their thanks to the members of the Chamber for the ready attention to all matters on which they have had occasion to consult them; and to express their acknowledgments to his Excellency the Governor-General of India in Council, and to his Excellency the Governor of Bombay in Council for the courtesy and attention with which their representations have on all occasions been received.

THE NATIVE PRESS.

REORGANISATION OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

TOUCHING the reorganisation of the Health Department, the *Indian Spectator* discourses:—We are glad the Corporation has at last adopted a well-thought of scheme for the re-organization of the Health Department, though we do not quite see the wisdom of putting off the giving effect to it after the Plague Committee has ceased to exist. We do not know that the Committee and Corporation are not able to co-exist. So long as the plague lasts, the greater the attention to health-ensuring operations, the larger and more well-organized the machinery to look to them, the better. Besides, no one knows when the plague will finally go away. We are glad that the principle of making one man responsible, primarily and solely for the Health Department has been recognized—though we see the recognition is rather tardy and half-hearted. We certainly would not like to see the Health Officer being reduced to the position of only an adviser of the Commissioner and a collaborator of reports, or that it should be the Commissioner and not the Health Officer who should have control in the first instance over the machinery to keep our city clean and watch the growth of disease or death.

SEGREGATION AND QUARANTINE.

The *Indu Prakash* thinks that segregation and quarantine have become discredited: It is becoming apparent that the ordinary methods of segregation and detention in quarantine camps do not materially decrease the plague attacks. Why then enforce the measures when they cause so much annoyance and misery to a good many people? We hope the new move on the part of the Plague Committee in allowing people to live in open spaces and even building sheds for those who are unable to do it themselves and in giving increased facilities for erecting sheds to those who are able to afford it, is an indication of a more sympathetic and humane policy.

ELECTION OF FELLOWS BY GRADUATES.

The *Rast Goftar* congratulates the Graduates of the University on the happy selection of two of their body for recommendation as Fellows, but regrets that race distinction was permitted to mark the conduct of the election. Our contemporary says: We do not object so much to the canvassing for votes on the part of the candidates, as to their bringing their influence to bear on the Graduates to vote in favour of him only who happens to belong to their caste or creed. We are not speaking without the book when we state that many of the Graduates, who wanted to see their castmen returned, did not exercise their vote in favour of the second candidate, lest a member of another community might be benefited by it. There were, we are told, many members who contented themselves with giving one vote only, while they were entitled to give two, and that too, in favour of the candidate who professed the same religion as themselves. If the University authorities have any doubt in their minds in the matter, we would refer them to the Registrar, who is perhaps still in possession of the voting papers. The native journals, which are always making the most of the little race distinctions between Europeans and natives, might take a lesson from the incident. Have they got the candour and courage to criticize the conduct of their own countrymen who accentuate race distinctions by cutting each other's throats?

THE LAW OF SEDITION.

The *Indian Spectator* thus comments on the Presidency Association's memorial regarding the law of sedition: The Presidency Association's memorial does well to point out at length the proposed changes will not bring the law of sedition in line, in spirit at any rate,—with the law obtaining in England or with the ideal law as Jurists of note have hitherto argued it should be. Besides, if the law is to be assimilated to the law in England, there should be the same guarantees against its abuse as exist in England. The Juries that decide the fate of persons accused of sedition consist in England of fellow-countrymen, who are as much interested in guarding freedom of speech as in vindicating the claims of the State against disaffection and disorder. In India the Juries in Presidency towns can never be of "Peers." One would have expected that the law would be so amended as to secure a real trial by "Peers" in all parts of India. Instead, the new very touchy sedition is proposed to be made triable by a Magistrate only. Surely then, it was merely a cruel irony to say that the proposed changes only intended to assimilate the Indian with the English law.

THE POONA MURDER.

Commenting on the result of the trial of Chapekar, the Poona murderer who has been sentenced to death by the Hon. Mr. Crowe, Sessions Judge of Poona, the *Rast Goftar* writes: "Chapekar, who is eaten up with vanity, at first made the confession in a spirit of bravado, but as in the case of all murderers, conscience made a coward of the man who as a last resort, endeavoured to throw dirt against the officer to whom he made the confession. The man appears to be too hardened a criminal to swallow all the good things said to have been promised by Mr. Brewin to him. The pill was evidently too large to be gulped down the throats of the intelligent jury, who were unanimous in their verdict. It must be some consolation to the numerous friends of the deceased gentlemen that the man, who brought about the premature end of such brilliant and promising careers, will expiate his dastardly crime on the gallows." The *Indian Spectator* observes: "The trial of Damodar Chapekar is at last over and he has got, subject to the sanction of the High Court of course, the extreme penalty the law can give, which on his own confessions he seemed as willingly to invite as richly to deserve. The trial hardly created any interest and has given us no new revelations. The vain braggartism of Damodar forsook him during the trial and the fellow once during so many months showed weakness by repudiating his confessions. The corroborative evidence was pretty strong, and we shall soon have an end of those immediately concerned in a dark tragedy, the effects of which have been too far-reaching indeed than Damodar could ever have dreamt. In the attempt to serve his people, the wretch has done an immense harm to the whole country; for to him we have to trace a string of calamities, the last of which up to date is Mr. Chalmer's Sedition Bill."

THE CITY IMPROVEMENT BILL.

The City Improvement Bill is approved of only by a few of the native journals.

The *Rast Goftar* states:—The City Improvement Bill has been published, and the objects and reasons with which it is prefaced leave little to be desired. No project of legislation for some years past has been so well-intentioned, so liberal and so likely to prove beneficial to the public as this Bill. We turn away from crude and repressive legislation with a sigh of relief, and the more we scan the provisions of the Bill, the more we are convinced of its beneficent intentions and practical aims. The main objects of the Bill may be briefly stated to be the relief of overcrowding in congested localities, the provision of open spaces, the alignment of streets to the prevailing breezes, the equable distribution of the populace over the area of the town, and the facility of communication between the city and the outlying districts, without which no opening up of the suburbs would lead to much good. Reclamation is contemplated as one of the means to the end proposed. We doubt its present necessity, if not its financial success; in any case we would certainly like to see the northern part of the town properly opened out before reclamation is attempted.

The *Indian Spectator* remarks:— "The City of Bombay Improvement Bill has been published at last, and we hope its passage through the Council will be smooth and quick. Every day that is allowed to depart, without the imperatively necessary work of reconstructing filthy Bombay being commenced is a day which ruins the health of millions and causes the death of hundreds, which might all be avoided. The Bill itself seems to be framed with care, and its provisions are such as with some exceptions, as there must be, should not necessitate long controversies or any other difficulties in the way of speedy and pretty unanimous adoption. The principle of a separate Trust, but one with a strong representation of the Corporation for rebuilding Bombay having been adopted, the matters of detail should not be difficult to be settled. Let us hope the Bill will become law in the beginning of April, so that the Board to come into existence under it may have two months before the monsoons to survey the whole town carefully, from a comprehensive and systematic plan of what is to be done and organise the machinery to give effect to its resolutions. The work to be done is indeed stupendous."

The *Kaiser-i-Hind* is dead against the principle of the Bill:—This brings us to the very first point in the proposed Bill. We have condemned it before and we condemn it again, because it is entirely conceived on wrong principles. The citizens of Bombay, in whose behalf, the Improvements are supposed to be carried out, are not to be allowed to manage the Improvements. No. They are still to be kept in leading strings. They are yet supposed to be children and must therefore be under paternal or *mabap* protection. They pretend to govern the country on British principles, but where for their own purposes those principles are found inconvenient, they do not hesitate to cast them to the winds. We are not at all in love with the Bill because it ignores the fundamental principle of local self-government, that affairs which ought to be managed by the people themselves should be left to the people. There have been a class of short-sighted people who have in a moment of weakness given to the Corporation their blind adhesion to the erroneous principle on which the whole superstructure of the Bill is framed."

The *Gujerati* thinks the Bill is not quite so acceptable as it seemed some weeks ago:—The City Improvement Bill has at last seen the light of day. Its provisions bear with its schedules are voluminous enough to prevent adequate discussion by the public press and the Corporation before the introduction in the local legislative Council. When some Corporators grew enthusiastic over the scheme without knowing its details, we asked them to wait and not pre-judge its merits in the absence of fuller information. Now that the Bill has been published, some of those, who were over-zealous at the very outset, will now admit that the Bill is not quite so acceptable as it seemed to them some weeks ago.

The *Indu Prakash* writes:—Some people are expecting a millenium in Bombay from his Excellency's scheme and are urging Government to carry out the measure in hot haste. We think these good people are mistaken in their estimate of the good to be derived by a speedy enactment. Bombay is suffering from many ills besides overcrowded localities. The drainage is not as good as it should be. The soil is water-logged, and consequently malarious. It may be well asked what is the good of reclaiming land which will be water-logged and what benefit there will be to people who will live in marshy and badly drained ground, however nicely laid out.

THE TIRAH EXPEDITION.

Some further particulars have reached us regarding the plan of operations against the Afridis in the Kajurai plain. It appears that the Political Officers heard that a considerable number of tribesmen with their cattle were in the plain, that they had their families with them, and believed they were quite secure against attack, while they had always a line of retreat open towards the Bazar Valley to the westward. It was determined to surprise the Afridis if possible and to capture their herds. For this purpose it was necessary to secure all the passes in the hills which enclose the Kajurai plain on three sides. Accordingly the 1st Brigade at Ali Masjid were ordered to send a column south-westwards to block the eastern end of the Bazar Valley; the 2nd Brigade at Jamrud were to move south-west up the Bazar River to Jabagai, to hold the hills from that village to Tanzi, and at the same time a squadron of cavalry and one company of infantry were directed to move to the Samaghakka Pass south of Jamrud; the 4th Brigade as Mamanai were to send out a column north-westwards towards the Shin Kamar Pass to hold and block the exits from the Kajurai plain in this direction. To the 3rd Brigade was entrusted the task of moving into the plain itself to capture the cattle

WRITERS AND READERS.

Some question of copyright appears to have arisen in connection with one of the papers in Mr. Gladstone's volume "Later Gleanings." Any how, we are to have a second edition, which will omit his general introduction to "Sheppard's Bible," an American publication. The place of that article is taken by another entitled "Ancient Beliefs in a Future State."

It is said that Mr. Dent has paid £2,700 for the goodwill of the "Idler," which he will now publish. That may be regarded as a handsome proof of his confidence in the future of this magazine. His program for it is to be vigorous and enterprising. As a publisher Mr. Dent has made a special feature of dainty books. It will be curious if the same gift does not appear in the new "Idler."

What is an "edition" of a book? It is no secret that the point here involved has several times been discussed by the leaders of the publishing trade. Mr. Murray has taken an interesting step by using the words "second impression" with reference to the second issue of Mr. Bishop's "Korea." This means a reprint of the work without alteration; simply so many more copies printed. On the other hand an "edition" will imply a change in the contents of a volume—that the author has revised it. Other publishers are expected to take up the movement, which, apart from anything else, has a real bibliographical importance.

A noteworthy letter by Thackeray will be published for the first time in the February "Longman's Magazine." It occurs in an article written by Mr. S. A. Strong, the librarian to the House of Lords. This article is based on the Duke of Devonshire's papers at Chatsworth, and deals with the connection between the sixth Duke and some of the distinguished writers of his time, namely, the earlier part of the present century, including years of the Queen's reign. In the letter in question Thackeray sketches out the leading characters of "Vanity Fair," after the close of the story.

George Borrow is one of the most attractive figures in English literature, yet we have no adequate biography of him. That want will be supplied by a book covering his life, writings, and correspondence, which Mr. Murray is to publish. The author is Professor Knapp, who has spent years in searching out and collecting material relating to Borrow. He has visited the scenes and places described by the author of "Lavengro," and, in fact, has ascertained every thing that can be ascertained. Was "Lavengro" an auto-biography or a romance? Professor Knapp may, perhaps, be able to lead us to the long-sought solution.

Mr. Elkin Mathews has arranged to publish Mr. Henry Newbolt's full-sized volume of verses. He, of course, had the good fortune to bring out "Admirals All" in his shilling Garland, and a "Chronicle" review sold a couple of editions immediately. It is just about to jump into an eighth edition. In America, where Mr. Lane will publish the larger volume, "Admirals All" has also had a warm welcome. Its contents will be included in the coming work along with the fresh verse which Mr. Newbolt has accumulated or may write between now and the summer. Mr. Mathews expects the new book for the autumn.

A posthumous paper by Du Maurier will appear in the forthcoming number of "Harper's Magazine." It is upon "Social Political Satire," and was originally prepared as a lecture. Du Maurier chats about the craft to which, as he says himself, he devoted the best years of his life. The paper has many reminiscences of Leech and Keene, two men whom he delighted to honor. There may have been greater artists than Leech, he tells us, but for making us laugh, for giving pleasure, there has been none to equal him. Of Keene as a personality, Du Maurier declares that he was very singularly attractive. The article is well illustrated.

In East Anglia particularly the name of Dr. J. E. Taylor was very familiar as that of a noted naturalist. Mr. Stanley Jodrey has written a life of him, which will be published by Messrs. Chatto. Dr. Taylor was curator of Ipswich Museum, and for years editor of "Science Gossip." He wrote largely on nature subjects, and visited Australia in order to lecture. He was strongly convinced of the existence of coal in the eastern counties of England, and advocated the making of experiments. As a personality, Dr. Taylor had many engaging characteristics, and his career altogether should make a welcome book.

The Clarendon Press is publishing a complete edition of Aubrey's "Lives," a work which occupies an odd corner in English literature. John Aubrey prepared his monographs between the years 1669 and 1691, and in a large measure he made subjects of contemporaries. He labelled the book "Brief Lives," but then some four hundred people came under notice. Aubrey's labors have not before been published in their entirety, the present edition being prepared from his manuscripts. Dr. Andrew Clark is the editor. Aubrey, who has been called an "immature Boswell," was the friend of Anthony Wood, the antiquarian.

The "Conversations" of the late Mr. Nassau-Senior, are well known for their wealth of literary and political information. The book of memories which his daughter, Mrs. Simpson, has written, will be published by Mr. Arnold at the end of the month. Mrs. Simpson was for many years her father's companion, and in his company she enjoyed the society, both in England and France, of distinguished people of the day. The lapse of time permits her now to make public several interesting chapters, of the "Conversations." Mrs. Simpson's own recollections are naturally of a lighter kind, and the anecdote is frequent in them.

Messrs. Chatto have almost ready the translation of "Le Desastre," a notable novel of the Franco-German War. The authors are two brothers—MM. Paul and Victor Margueritte—who have collaborated in other literary work. They are the sons of General Marguerite, who was a distinguished figure in the famous struggle. Both are young, and both were born in Algeria, where their father did valuable work as an administrator. The present book is in the form of a daily narrative of the war, the point of view being that of an officer. Mr. Frederic Lees has made the translation, and he supplies a preface telling of the brothers and their father.

"A Race for Millions" is the title of a new novel by Mr. David Christie Murray which Messrs. Chatto are to publish.—The title of Mr. Frank Mathew's next story, which Mr. John Lane will publish, is "The Spanish Wife." Mr Frank Mathew is a nephew of Mr. Justice Mathew. Messrs. White announce the following volumes of fiction:—"Dick Rivers," by Miss Annie Thomas; "For Liberty," by Mr. Hume Nisbet; and "The Induna's Wife," by Mr. Bertram Mitford. Having regard to the attention which Zola is attracting, his novel "Paris" will appear very opportunely. Messrs. Chatto state definitely that they will publish it on Feb. 10. Mr. Heinemann will publish an addition to his Pioneer Library. It is a story by Mrs. Henry Dudeney, and has the title "A Man with a Maid." Messrs. Methuen are about to publish two novels—"The Vintage," by E. F. Benson, author of "Dodo," and "Vesta's Wife," by Miss Norma Lorimer. Mr. Benson has not published a new book for some time, and this story, a historical romance, is a new departure. It is fully illustrated by Mr. Jacomb-Hood.

"A Memoir of her Royal Highness Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck"—that will be the title of the work on which Mr. Kinloch Cook is now engaged. Mr. Pinero's play "The Princess and the Butterfly" will appear in volume form in a fortnight. It will be the fifteenth volume of the series, which Mr. Heinemann publishes. The first edition of Mr. Stephen Phillips's poems, the volume just "crowned" by the "Academy," is already out of print, and a new edition will be ready shortly. Mr. Murray is just bringing out Mr. Herbert Warren's book of verse "By Severn Sea." A small edition of the work has already been privately printed in Oxford. Mr Warren is President of Magdalen College. Now that the book sales are in full swing again, anecdotes of book-hunts are quite in season. One of the most ex raordinary incidents of this kind will be described by Mr. W. Roberts, in an early number of "Chambers Journal," under the title of "The Story of a Burns Find."

The Prince of Naples, who is a learned numismatist and possesses a splendid collection of coins, has communicated his intention to the Italian Numismatic Society of publishing the "Corpus Numorum Italicorum," offering the profits secured by the sale of the work for the benefit of the Society. The Prince (a Florence correspondent says) will be assisted in the work in the undertaking by Cavaliere Costantino Luppi, Secretary of the Society. The coin collection of the Prince of Naples exceeds 18,000 pieces, and it is estimated that at least 50,000 coins will be descriptively included in the new work.

The first work published in England of the Italian novelist Gabriele Annunzio is a translation of "Il Trionfo della Morte" ("The Triumph of Death"). It was published by Mr. Heinemann recently. The author has recently been elected a member of the House of Representatives in Rome, and has besides written a romantic play for Sarah Bernhardt, in which she will appear shortly.

The Delegates of the Oxford University Press are about to issue in two volumes the Coptic Version of the New Testament in the Northern dialect, otherwise called Memphitic and Bohairic, introduction, critical apparatus, text, and literal English translation. The editor says that the prevailing text is mate of the Version with Homilies published under documents of the first or late discovered in Egypt. The translation has been made at private lectures of Bishop Wescott.

SOME NAVAL GRIEVANCES.

Lord Charles Beresford, in a recent speech in which he dwelt on a number of points which commissioned officers assert, affect them disadvantageously, stated that no one in the navy had any "grievances;" but this does not mean that sailors have ceased to grumble, some times with good cause. The Queen's Regulations discourage and practically forbid an officer or man taking effective action to remedy any cause of complaint, and the result is that the general public are at the present moment unaware of the discontent that exists among almost all grades and ratings on the lower deck of the navy. Statements have been prepared by the chief petty officers, petty officers and seamen in which they set forth their complaints, and have been forwarded to members of Parliament and others, in the hope that some action may be taken during the coming Session of Parliament.

The appeal from the chief petty officers—the highest rank on the lower deck—has been issued through their society, and is a comparatively simple explanation of a single point that certainly seems to call for the favourable consideration of the Admiralty. Every well-behaved boy on the naval training-ships may aspire to become in a few years a petty officer, and thence rising step by step from petty officer of the second class to an officer of the first class, and even to the highest grade of chief petty officer. Promotion to this chief rating of the lower deck entails an expenditure on the part of the men of about £20 each for new uniform (towards which the Admiralty contributes £5), and it carries with it an increase of pay ranging from threepence to fivepence a day; but the pension remains stationary, for when a chief petty officer retires he is reduced for the purposes of pension calculations to the rating of first-class petty officer although his responsibilities during the last few years of his service have been greatly increased. All that is asked in this matter of this class may receive an additional pension at the rate of one-half penny a day for each year's service in the highest rank on the lower deck. The number of men who would be affected by this improvement in the rate of pension is so small that the expense entailed would not be great.

THE MEN OF THE LOWER DECK.

Far more serious are the complaints which have been set forth by the other petty officers and men of the fleet. During the past few years the wages of the working classes have steadily increased, but while the navy has been vastly strengthened, the pay of the men of the lower deck has remained practically stationary. An ordinary seaman's pay is 1s. 3d. a day, a stoker receives 1s. 3d., and the pay of other ratings is proportionately small. A large number of sailors are married men, for many and these remained to a great extent by sober, hard working, law-abiding men, who, as they have wives and families living on shore, pay the same proportion of house rent, rates, and taxes, and have almost the same expenses for food and clothing, as civilians. Jack cannot see why his wife and family should not be able to live in the same comfort as those of other working men who have benefited by the betterment of the conditions of living ashore. He does not ask for equality, but urges that the present rate of pay should be sufficiently augmented to enable him to make better provision for those dependent on him. Besides his home responsibilities, a blue-jacket has to pay for a certain part of his food, and the supplementary rations range from threepence to sixpence or sevenpence a day, which is a considerable sum to come out of a slender wage.

Very closely allied to this question of pay is the subject of the messing of the lower deck and the meal hours. The meal hours of the navy are an absurdity. The Admiralty only recognizes and provides for three meals; breakfast at any time between five and 7 a.m., dinner at twelve noon, and supper at four p.m.; so that between the last meal one day and the first on the succeeding day there should be a fast of from eleven to fifteen hours, according to the exact breakfast hour, which is a movable meal. During a portion of ships' commissions fasting there is considerable work to be done; so that a man's appetite, to which the sea air always gives a keen edge, becomes unusually active. These are merely the official meal hours of the men.

SELF-PROVIDED MEALS.

Long ago they took the matter into their own hands and made two other meals, for which, however, they pay themselves. During one morning, usually about nine o'clock, they have a "stand easy" for ten minutes or so for a second breakfast, and at about 7-30 in the evening, after hammocks are piped down, the men eat a second supper, for which they also pay themselves, unless they have saved some food from their former meals. Bad, however, small a man's capacity may be, and, however, well he may arrange his but of fare within the official limits there are small matters such as butter, cheese, milk and fruit for puddings, and suet, and until a month or two ago salt, which he has to pay for out of his pay; and it can be readily imagined that there are many occasions, especially in hot climates, when even a blue-jacket longs for some slight luxuries beyond the very plain fare provided by the authorities. Jack's bill of fare in harbour consists of 1 lb. of fresh meat (including bone), 1 1-2 lb. of bread, 2 oz. of sugar, 1- oz. of chocolate for making cocoa, 1-4 oz. of tea, and one-eighth of a pint of rum—that is, a decoction consisting of one-part of rum to three of water. The 1 lb. of meat is seldom claimed, and the money allowed for the residue—known as "savings"—helps to buy such a necessity as vegetables which, it will be seen, are not provided. This ration is capable of great improvement and welcome variation a little or no expense, but in luxuriousness compared with the official fare when at sea. Instead of fresh meat men are supplied with salt beef or salt pork, and as no bread is baked on board ship 1-4 lb. of biscuit is served out. One of the most curious anomalies in connection with the rations of the men of the lower deck is that the actual weight of solid food supplied at sea is less than when in harbour, whereas it should be, of course, more at sea, when the appetite is keen.

HOLIDAYS AND PENSIONS.

There is another complaint in connection with the question of messing. When soldiers go on leave they receive an allowance in lieu of provisions. This privilege has never been conceded by the Admiralty, and blue-jackets are appealing for a reconsideration of this question, since if they do not eat the food the taxpayer makes a profit out of their holidays. It is suggested that the whole question of the victualling of the fleet should be referred to a strong committee of experts with a view to the official dietary and the official meal hours being reviewed and amended.

Attention is also called to another grievance—this time one of the old familiar pension grievances. Under the Queen's Regulations, should a petty officer obtain a "very good" character each year for the first nineteen years of his service, and then, through some trivial offence or misfortune in his last year obtain only "good," he forfeits the gratuity for good service to which he would otherwise be entitled, and is deprived of one half of his pension as a petty officer; in fact, one slip in his twentieth year may ruin a man's career, and result in the pension for which he has worked hard and steadily for nineteen years being reduced by eightpence a day during the remainder of his life.

These are only a comparatively few of the causes of discontent among the chief petty officers, petty officers, and men of the lower deck. It is true there are no signs of open revolt, though there has been a great increase of cases of striking or attempting to strike officers; in 1895 no less than seventy-nine men being tried for this offence—a sure sign of discontent. But because little is heard of the discontent on the lower deck of the navy, it is a mistake to suppose that the men are satisfied with their lot. Regulations may still complain of, as they have stifled it for many years, but the issue of strongly though calmly worded appeals, publicly circulated, is a trustworthy sign that the disaffection well deserves attention before it becomes more serious. As the condition of the working classes has been so greatly improved, it seems only just that the bluejackets should be permitted to share in this upward movement in the matter of food, if not in pension.

Etievant was the other evening at the boisterous Tivoli-Vauxhall meeting, and was noted for his violence. Etievant is red-haired, and is of a strong, clean-built figure. His eyes are grey and harsh, and denote resolution. He was five years a Zouave in Algeria, and entered the army with the greatest reluctance, and only because his father implored him to submit. Otherwise he would have gone to England. Old Etievant now lives in the Ivry asylum for old men. On leaving the army the son was implicated in the thefts of dynamite operated by Ravachol in the Soisy-sous-Etiolles quarry, and was sentenced to five years' imprisonment. "The Libertaire" articles got him into another scrape, and to escape justice he fled to England, picked up there the art of wood engraving, but not knowing the language, went back to France.

What becomes of the stage dresses in these days of brilliant costumes behind the curtain? An auctioneer's catalogue, addressed "to theatrical managers, costumiers, wardrobe dealers, and others," suggests their varied destinations; and will be "going, going, gone" the cast-off apparel that has done service on the Gaiety stage. How odd it will be if the "clerical suit" that figured "In Town," and "the superfine cloth clerical suit" seen in "My Girl," should ultimately find their way to the wardrobe of some specially impecunious curate! Will any of the "Geisha" dresses find their way to Japan? The barrister's stuff gown that has been paraded in "The Gay Parisienne" may yet appear in the High Court of Justice. We may not pry into the future of the gay evening dresses of "The Lady Slavey," "My Girl," "The Shop Girl," and the other burlesques already mentioned.

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY, THE 9TH OF FEBRUARY, 1898.

1. The barometric readings are corrected to Cabert standard, reduced to the same temperature 32° and also to the sea level and corrected to the constant gravity of Lat. 45.

2. The 2nd column under the head 'Wind' gives the average motion of the air in miles per hour during the last 24 hours, and is obtained by dividing the total number of miles of wind registered by an anemometer during the previous 24 hours by 24.

3. The temperatures given in the table are of the air in the shade or in a small shed with open sides and a thatched or straw roof. The maximum (max.) and minimum (min.) temperatures are the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours preceding 8 a.m.

4. The humidity is given as a percentage expressing the ratio of the actual amount of moisture in the air to the amount required to saturate it.

Stations	Pressure reduced to sea level at 8 a.m.	Wind. Direction.	Wind. Rate per hour	Temperature in shade. Maximum of past 24 hours.	Temperature in shade. Minimum of past 24 hours.	Humidity.	Rainfall. Inches. Hours.	Rainfall. Since 1st Nov.	Variation since 1st Nov.
Lahore	29·76	Calm	1	72·6	44·2	75	...	1·28	—·99
Simla	28·95	N	3	75·2	42·2	57	...	0·06	—1·21
Delhi	29·83	NW	3	74·7	50·1	78	0·03	0·03	—1·67
Agra	29·96	NE	5	77·0	55·1	54	0·10	0·56	—0·74
Cawnpore	29·97	ESE	2	79·1	55·5	91	0·09	0·16	...
Allahabad	29·98	ENE	6	79·7	58·4	95	0·13	0·13	—1·24
Jhansi	29·81	Calm	1	80·0	60·2	89	0·4	0·4	—0·88
Jacobabad	29·82	NNW	9	79·4	58·0	53	0·00	0·4	—0·26
Karachi	29·86	NNW	9	83·0	55·4	12	0·34	0·34	—0·72
Jeypore	29·87	NE	9	75·0	56·8	94	0·18	0·0	—0·94
Ajmere	29·81	E	10	75·9	57·7	71	0·0	1·0	—0·91
Deesa	29·72	ENE	10	85·2	52·1	73	...	...	—0·12
Ahmedabad	29·80	SSE	3	81·6	56·2	17	...	...	...
Bhuj	29·74	NW	10	84·3	60·5	48	...	...	—0·29
Rajkot	29·73	WSW	14	82·4	6·0	32	0·0	0·8	—0·42
Ghatchi	29·76	S	7	81·5	62·7	57	...	...	...
Veraval	29·70	...	10	78·1	6·8	83	0·0	0·1	...
Neemuch	29·86	ENE	6	81·2	56·3	37	0·02	0·3	—0·71
Indore	29·85	Calm	5	84·5	54·1	84	0·23	0·23	—0·1
Sangor	29·88	ESE	13	77·5	53·1	50	0·02	0·2	—1·70
Jubbulpore	29·91	NE	4	78·1	48·8	81	0·83	0·8	—0·20
Hoshangabad	29·89	Calm	3	88·7	60·8	92	0·18	0·18	—1·37
Khandwa	29·84	Calm	7	91·7	64·5	84	0·01	0·01	—0·15
Raipur	29·96	Sc.	5	86·3	44·7	75	...	0·01	—1·05
Nagpur	29·87	SSE	7	89·2	64·1	57	...	...	—2·16
Amraoti	29·84	S	12	92·7	68·8	55	...	0·07	—1·07
Akola	29·86	WSW	4	91·5	64·9	60	...	...	—2·14
Surat	29·72	S	3	82·5	61·0	76	...	...	—0·24
Malegaon	29·89	SSW	4	86·9	55·4	44	...	...	—1·17
Bulsar	29·73	SSW	3	84·1	62·7	69	...	...	—0·68
Poona	29·87	SW	12	84·5	53·4	70	...	...	—1·06
Ahmednagar	29·88	SE	6	84·5	55·1	67	...	...	...
Aurank abad	29·98	SSW	8	87·8	59·2	45	...	...	...
Sholapur	29·88	SW	10	89·2	65·0	40	...	...	—1·85
Ratnagiri	29·84	ESE	1	85·5	66·1	81	...	...	—0·80
Belgaum	29·85	SSE	1	86·2	57·9	65	...	...	—2·09
Goa	29·85	SE	1	82·1	68·3	81	...	...	...
Karwar	29·86	ENE	1	85·7	64·1	87	...	...	—2·81
Mangalore	29·89	ESE	3	88·7	70·8	77	...	...	—3·16
Calicut	29·87	Calm	10	87·3	72·5	80	...	2·10	—1·39
Cochin	29·81	ENE	6	...	7·6	20	...	4·20	—1·30
Alleppi	29·88	ESE	11	84·3	69·8	76	...	0·50	—3·83
Scoundarabad	29·89	SSE	1	87·4	70·0	71	...	...	—2·13
Masulipatam	29·95	SE	10	89·1	74·6	87	...	...	—1·8
Bellary	29·86	SE	1	90·7	67·7	55	...	0·1	—2·6
Cuddapah	29·88	E	L	93·1	69·6	78	...	3·41	—2·47
Madras	29·88	NE	7	86·0	70·5	85	...	2·18	—10·38
Coimbatore	29·80	E	7	92·4	65·6	53	...	3·5	—1·9
Trichinopoly	29·8·8	N	1	93·1	71·9	80	...	3·29	—4·89
Negapatam	29·82	NE	1	83·7	74·9	86	...	11·72	—19·02
Colombo	29·82	E	7	86·0	75·0	74	...	22·86	—·64
Aden	29·90	E	7	81·8	6·4	79	...	0·4	—0·68

In column "Wind, Rate per hour," L=Light M=Moderate F=Fresh, S=Strong, H=Heavy.

SUMMARY.

There has been a brisk to rapid fall of pressure in Rajputana, Gujarat, and at Cawnpore, Jhansi, Neemuch, Surat and Bombay, a brisk rise at Secunderabad and a slight rise or fall elsewhere. Readings are highest in the North-West Provinces and the Punjab and lowest in Cutch, Kathiawar and Gujarat. Gradients are steep to slight. Winds are irregularly cyclonic in Lower Sind, Cutch and Gujarat, and are very variable in direction elsewhere. The force has been moderate to high. This morning the wind velocity was 28 miles and hour at Bombay, 22 at Jeypore, 16 at Bhuj and Amraoti, and 11 at Secunderabad. The maximum is 6° in excess of the normal at Karachi, and the minimum in large to very large excess in Bombay, the Central Provinces, Central India, Gujarat, Rajputana, and at Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, Masulipatam, Secunderabad, Bangalore, Sholapur, Surat, Jhansi, Allahabad, Agra and Deesa. The highest temperature in the shade was 93° at Trichinopoly and Cuddapah, and the lowest 49° at Sirsa. Humidity has increased considerably in Central India, Rajputana, Sind, the North-West Provinces and at Deesa, Ahmedabad, Bhuj, Rajkot, Veraval, Sangor, Jubbulpore, Hoshangabad, Khandwa, Secunderabad and Coimbatore, and the skies are cloudy to overcast in several places. Rain in light to moderate showers has fallen at Agra, Allahabad, Karachi, Indore, Sangor, Jubbulpore and Hoshangabad, and a few drops at Khandwa, Neemuch, Veraval, Rajkot, Ajmere, Jeypore, Jhansi, Cawnpore, Delhi and Jacobabad. As anticipated in yesterday's report, the depression has advanced in a north-easterly direction and is now central over Bhuj, Rajkot and Deesa, where the barometer is about three-tenths below its normal. The weather—both over sea and land lying to the north of Latitude 19° and to the west of Longitude 80°—is influenced by the depression and is in a very unsettled condition. The barometer has commenced to rise slowly in the Madras Presidency, Mysore and along the coast from Cochin to Karwar, and the baric gradients are steep over the affected area. With the increase of gradients the wind is increasing in force in Gujarat, Rajputana, Cutch, Kathiawar and at Bombay, but the increase is not yet appreciable. The skies are now very cloudy, and rain is to be expected in many places in the affected area. The disturbance is moving in a north-easterly direction, and as soon as the barometer commences to rise, the wind will probably increase in force.

W. C. NIGEL JONES,
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SIMLA, Feb. 9.

Wednesday; The cyclonic storm noticed over Sind, Gujerat, and Kathiawar yesterday, has increased considerably in intensity, and the barometer has fallen slightly to rapidly over Bombay, Rajputana the Central Provinces, and South Punjab; elsewhere the barometer has risen. As a consequence of these changes the pressure gradients have increased, and the pressure difference between the storm area over North Bombay and the high-pressure areas over the North Punjab and over Assam Valley is unusually large. At Hyderabad (Sind) the pressure is now three-tenths of an inch below the normal average. Over the Bay area the winds are uninfluenced by the storm and remain generally between north-west and north-east; but elsewhere the winds are irregularly cyclonic. The force is at present nowhere strong, but is increasing very generally and will probably be strong to a gale over North-West India. The temperature has fallen in Burma, is steady in Bengal, the Punjab, Bombay, Sind, Rajputana, and Madras, and has risen in the North-West and the Central Provinces, Gujarat, and Central India. Showers of rain have fallen over the whole of the central parts of India, and over Kathiwar and Jubbulpore. Sutna reports over three-quarters of an inch, Chyebassa over half-an-inch, and Pachmarhi, Nowgong, Karachi and Agra over a quarter-of-an-inch, while many stations have received small amounts.

BOMBAY JACKAL CLUB.

POINT-TO-POINT RACES AND GYMKHANA.

To be held at Santa Cruz on Saturday, 5th March.
Committee:—Mr T W Birkett, Capt J W Dunbar, R A, Mr J F N Graham, Mr H E E Foster, Mr W Spring, and Mr J H Symington, the Hon P Tosswill, Hon Secretary.
Event No. 1—Open Pairs of Horses for Horses—About 2½ miles. Catch-weights. English and Walers, 7st 7lbs and over. Entrance, Rs 10. Prize—A Cup. Name on 1st 5 starters.
Event No. 2—Open Pairs of Ponies and Arab or Galloway Ponies 13·3 and under—About 2 miles. English and Walers, 13·1, 12st. Arabs and Country-breds, 13·3, 10 st 7 lbs. Weight for inches. Entrance, Rs 10. Prize—A Cup. No race unless five starters.
Event No. 3—The Hunt Cup for Horses—About 3 miles. Catch-weights. English and Walers, 12st 7lbs and over. Arabs and Country-breds, 10st 7lb and over. Owners up. Entrance, Rs 10. Prize—A Cup.
Event No. 4—The Hunt Cup for Galloways and Ponies 14 hands and under—About 2 miles. English and Walers, 11 hands, 12st. Arabs and Country-breds, 11 hands, 10st 13lbs and under allowed 7lbs. Entrance, Rs 10. Prize—A Cup. Owners up.
Event No. 5—Jumping Competition—
(a) For Horses.
(b) For Galloways and Ponies 14 hands and under.
Entrance, Rs 2. Prizes—Two Cups.

RULES.

1. Events Nos 1 and 2 are open to members of the Bombay Hunt, Poona and Kirkee Hunt, Bombay Gymkhana and Light Horse. Five starters or no event. Prizes must be provided with less entries as to the approval of the Starting Post.
2. In Events Nos 1, 2, 3 and 4, half an hour is to go to the second horse and half to the Pony Colours must be worn.
3. All questions arising in connection with this Meeting will be decided by the Committee, whose decision will be final.
4. Entries to be made on or before Tuesday, the 1st March 1898, to P. TILES GIER,
8th February 1898. Honorary Secretary.

NOTICE.

Arrangements will be made for a Special Train leaving Colaba about 3 p.m. and calling at intermediate stations to Grant Road, which will convey members and guests to Santa Cruz.
This train will return to Bombay at the conclusion of the Races.
Members who big to invite guests are requested to send names and addresses to the Honorary Secretary, care of The Bombay Co, Ltd, who will issue all invitations.

NOTICES

NO STABLE IS COMPLETE WITHOUT

For Sprains, Curbs, and Splints when forming.
For Over-reaches, Chapped Heels, Wind Galls.
For Rheumatism in Horses.
For Sore Throats and Influenza.
For Broken Knees, Bruises, Capped Hocks.
For Sore Shoulders, Sore Backs.
For Sprains, Cuts, Bruises in Dogs.
For Gramp in Birds.
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"May rely upon it whenever a diet of this class is required."
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"The children I have known fed upon it have invariably been models of good health."
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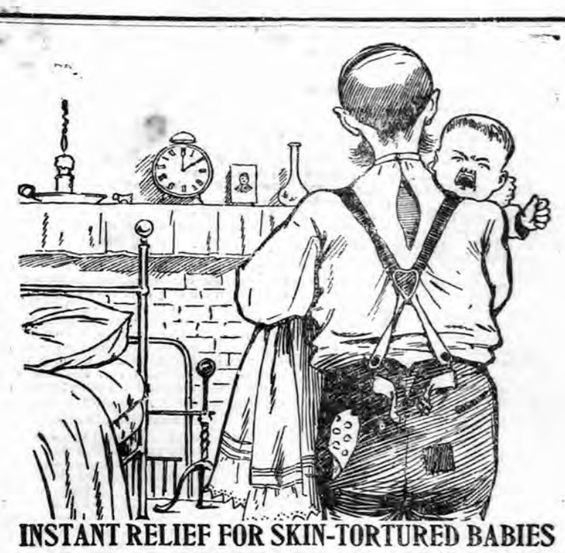

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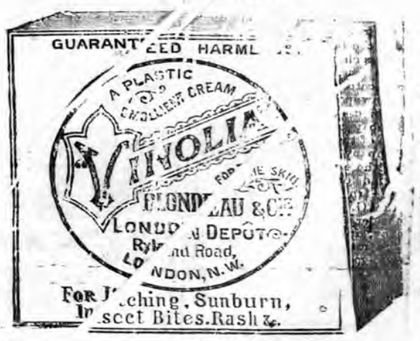

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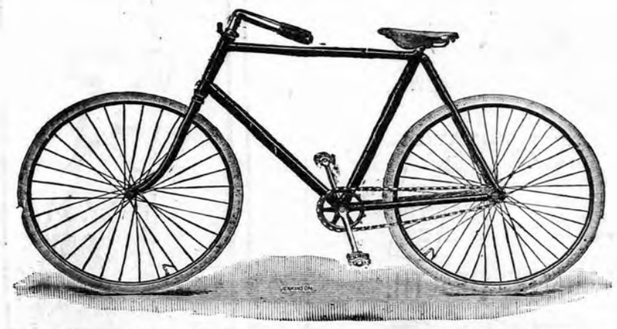

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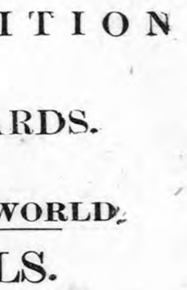

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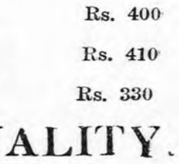

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